

By Craig Seton

aged 28, the former Tory candidate, his pregnant wife, Lynn, at his side, appeared more relieved than jubilant at the outcome.

Just after 2 am the candidates were told that the Conservatives had a majority of 180. Mr Walmsley, a radio producer called for a full recount. That produced a Conservative majority of 94.

Mr McLoughlin, now MP, told the crowd: "I have been given certain messages during this campaign and I intend to relay those messages to the Government during the next few months."

Mr Walmsley said West Derbyshire had become the fifth most marginal seat in the country and the result demonstrated that an Alliance government was a real possibility.

Mr William Moore, Labour, went behind in third place, hit out at some doorstep tactics that had been used during the campaign and the intrusion of "badly conducted" polls.

By David Walker

Thanks to a Labour sweep in the inner boroughs of Southwark, Camden, Islington, Hackney and Tower

As the only directly-elected London-wide body left after the abolition of the Greater London Council, Ilea is a prized symbol for Labour. Mrs Morrell interpreted the result as an endorsement of the authority's sometimes controversial policies for enlightening London schoolchildren about sex and race.

Mrs Shields collecting the winnings from a £50 bet and, right, Mr McLoughlin and his wife, Lynne. (Photographs: Harry Kerr and Dod Miller).

By George Hill

Mr Neil Balfour, the Conservative, usually a most assured public man, was constantly drawn back to the crackling television and sat tumbling his wedding ring round and round in his hands.

As for Mrs Elizabeth Shields, the Liberal candidate, she was nowhere to be seen. She awaited her fate modestly somewhere in private, and did not appear until the an-

For all the national fanfare to celebrate her success which the Alliance is raising, in its relief that its electoral momentum has not been lost Mrs Shields is an archetypal example of the Liberal MP whose strength lies in local and not national concerns.

An active member of Ryedale District Council, she was able to draw on valuable reserves of public goodwill in the campaign. Venturing on to matters of grand strategy, she tends to become wooden and trite, and she is too straightforward a person to affect the

Outwardly she is something of a mouse, but a mouse with tenacity and a clear private sense of her own worth — and a mouse whose roar has been heard all over Britain once in her life at least. She was confident enough of herself and of her team to lay a bet for the first time in her life early in the campaign. She put £10 on herself to win at 5-2 odds, and later staked another £50 at 6-4. Mrs Shields is a Latin and history teacher in her early 50s (allegedly 52 but she is shy on this point).

Although she has lived in the area for 20 years, she was born in Bushey Hill Park, Middlesex, married in Surrey in 1961 and only moved to Yorkshire later with her Scottish husband, David, a university lecturer in education. They have no children.

Mr McLoughlin, a former miner and member of the National Union of Mine workers, learnt a lot about adversity when he attracted the wrath of his workmates by being only one of a handful to work at Littleton colliery, near

The son and grandson of miners, he decided in his teens that the Conservative Party was for him. He believed then and has kept on repeating right up to the last press conference of his election campaign, that it was the only party that offered opportunity

During his five years working underground, he not unexpectedly found few colleagues who would admit to agreeing with him, although he has always argued that miners generally are well to the right of Labour.

Down in the pits he was not averse to preaching the Conservative creed, and during the by-election he did it with a fervour that sometimes worried his handlers.

Mr McLoughlin, aged 28, one of the youngest MPs, was a highly effective doorstep campaigner, although given to spending too much time arguing with opponents whose vote he had no hope of winning.

Having decided on a political career, Mr McLoughlin rose quickly through the Young Conservatives

**By Richard Evans
Lobby Reporter**

Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen, looking tired but elated after a hectic night of election fever, predicted yesterday that the Alliance would fight the next general election on equal terms with Labour and Conservatives, and was of course to win about 250 seats.

With the failure of Fulham as a distant memory, Dr Owen said that the Alliance had demolished the Conservative vote at Ryedale and West Derbyshire. "And we have done to Labour what they did to us in Fulham, with knots

While the two party leaders were less euphoric about the outcome of the local council elections, they still insisted that very solid success had been achieved, the highlights including the Alliance gaining control of the London borough of Tower Hamlets, a hitherto rock-solid bastion of Labour support, and winning Sutton from the Conservatives.

On the basis of Ryedale and West Derbyshire the Alliance was on target for about 250 seats at the next election, while a projection of the local elections, held mainly in strong Labour territory, still gave the Alliance 80 seats.

Continued from page 1

as Secretary of State. There is pressure for the Prime Minister to conduct a more extensive reshuffle to freshen the Cabinet's image.

But senior ministers said that there should be no sudden changes in government policies, which they said would be seen as a panic reaction, and cause distrust among the electorate. Ministers believe that the Government is still suffering from the impression of disunity created by the Westland affair.

After her visit to Central Office, Mrs Thatcher said that the Government would keep right on with its policies and redouble its efforts. Suggestions that it had been humiliated were nonsense.

Metropolit districts

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AS THE SCENE

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SDP: Social Democrat
All: Liberal/SDP Alliance
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Increased use of drug could prevent 7,000 thrombosis deaths

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The lives of about 7,000 thrombosis victims in Britain could be saved every year if preventive treatment was made more widely available, medical experts said yesterday.

About 15,000 people die each year from pulmonary embolism, a consequence of deep-vein thrombosis, and up to 500,000 others suffer years of pain and discomfort from the circulatory condition.

The latest medical evidence, presented to a meeting at the Royal Society of Medicine in London yesterday, has emphasized that an inexpensive drug treatment could prevent much of the illness and almost half of the deaths.

However, many doctors are unwilling to resort to the use of low-dose heparin as a preventive measure because they are over-concerned about the bleeding that it can cause in some patients, the meeting was told.

"They are reluctant to accept the evidence, even though it is now overwhelming," Dr Duncan Thomas, a leading specialist in thrombosis research, said. Deep-vein thrombosis is a

condition in which blood clots form in the legs, usually of the middle-aged and elderly. It can lead to pulmonary embolism, in which a blood clot travels to the heart and then lodges in the lung.

It can occur suddenly and unexpectedly in hospital patients recovering from medical or surgical illness, and is an immediate threat to life. It can lead also to other problems such as leg ulcers and varicose veins.

In Britain, only 45 per cent of general surgery patients with the condition are receiving heparin, compared with 84 per cent in The Netherlands, and 78 per cent in Sweden, according to Professor Vijay Kakkar, director of the Thrombosis Research Unit at King's College School of Medicine, London University. "We want to persuade clinicians to adopt a more progressive approach," he said.

Evidence from the United States showed that heparin treatment produced a 68 per cent reduction of deep-vein thrombosis in 12,000 patients, and a 49 per cent reduction in deaths from pulmonary embolism.

"Widespread use of this form of prophylaxis would provide a meaningful survival benefit and would have an acceptable risk of haemorrhage," Professor Kakkar said. "This would mean saving some 7,000 lives a year in our country."

One specialist at the meeting estimated that the cost to the National Health Service of using heparin, an anti-coagulant produced by the body, would amount to about £4 million a year if all appropriate patients were treated.

Professor Harold Roberts, of the University of North Carolina, presented the summary of a consensus statement from a recent conference organized by the National Institute of Health in the United States. Deep-vein, or venous thrombosis, and pulmonary embolism were associated with 50,000 deaths, and up to 600,000 hospitalizations a year in America, he said.

"Prevention is far superior to treatment, and the evidence for benefit from preventive treatment is compelling," he said. "It should be used more extensively."

Cigarette blackmail charges

Two brothers were charged last night with demanding £500,000 with menaces from Gallaher, the cigarette and tobacco company, between April 14 and May 1 last.

The charges arise from a police investigation into an alleged blackmail plot against Gallaher, of Kingsway, Holborn, central London, in which it is alleged there was a threat to put cyanide into some of the company's cigarettes.

David Prewitt, aged 33, a builder, of Nottingham Road, Hockley, and Phillip Prewitt, aged 30, also a builder, of Monkton Drive, Billborough, both Nottinghamshire, are due to appear before Hockley Road Magistrates' Court today.

They were charged at Rochester Row police station in central London by Det Chief Supt Basil Haddrell, of Scotland Yard's Serious Crime Squad, CI. The two men were arrested on Wednesday night on board an Inter-City 125 train en route from St Pancras to Leeds via Nottingham.

Bomb part 'found in hotel lavatory'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A detective yesterday told a jury at the Central Criminal Court how he found part of a timer used in bomb-making three floors down from the alleged seat of the bomb in the Grand Hotel, Brighton, two years ago.

On the fourth day of the trial of a Belfast man accused of the bombing, Det Con Ian Macleod, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, told the court he found a plate from a Memo Park timer 15 days after the explosion in the hotel on October 12, 1984.

Mr Macleod said the plate was lodged in the U-bend of a lavatory in room 329. Earlier the court had been told that room 629 was considered by police experts to be the seat of the blast.

Mr Macleod said he recognized the plate immediately although it had been altered into the shape of an ice-cream cone. Dust and mortar had gathered in the lavatory creating mud but Mr Macleod said he spread the mud out on the floor and found the plate. Cross-examined by Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, for the

defence of Patrick Joseph Magee who has pleaded not guilty to seven charges connected with the bombing, Mr Macleod agreed the timer had been used by motorists to remind them of the expiration of their time on parking meters.

Det Con Macleod said he had seen the timer wired up in conjunction with time and power units in bombs. They allowed anyone planting a bomb up to an hour to escape. They might also be used as "a safety mechanism" when a bomb was being armed.

The detective said he had also helped with the removal of the mutilated body of Mrs Jeanne Shanock who was found in room 638 after the blast. The court has been told she and her husband, chairman of the Conservative Party's western area, had been staying in room 628.

Mr David Horne, a police explosives officer at Scotland Yard, said he estimated the bomb at the Grand Hotel to be between 20 and 30 lbs. The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Banks to be protected in drugs cash inquiries

The Government is acting to give banks legal protection if they volunteer suspicious to police or customs that customers' finances are connected with drug trafficking (Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, writes). An amendment is to be tabled to the Drug Trafficking Offences Bill, now before the House of Lords. It is expected to come into force in the autumn.

The Government's move will also cover investment advisers and others who may have suspicions that the source of money is drugs.

The Home Office says that the Committee of London and Scottish Banks, which was consulted, had no objections to this proposal. But in March Mr Robert Sale, a director of Barclays, said: "We don't want, in any way, to infringe the long-established

BR launches service to skirt London

London will cease to be a barrier for through rail travellers in the north and the south of England when British Rail launches its cross-London Inter-City services on Monday (Our Transport Editor writes).

Express trains will run round the west side of London via Kensington Olympia between Dover and Brighton in the South, and Liverpool and Manchester in the North, relieving passengers of the need to change trains and stations in the capital.

Fourteen services will operate on the route each day with cuts of up to 100 minutes in journey time.

Typical timings are Manchester to Gatwick in 3hr 43min; Croydon to Stoke in 2hr 38min; and Liverpool to Dover in 4hr 46min.



Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary after their successful climb to the summit of Mount Everest in 1953.

Man of the mountains Tenzing dies

By Paul Valley

Probably the world will now never know who was really the first climber to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

Tenzing Norgay has died in the higher reaches of Darjeeling and Sir Edmund Hillary, who was recently appointed to be New Zealand's Ambassador to India, will doubtless remain bound by their unspoken pact that the honour should not be divided.

It was five months ago that the rarified atmosphere in which he worked made its final claim upon the sherpa, aged 72.

He was sent from the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, which he founded the year after the conquest of the world's highest mountain, to a

hospital in New Delhi suffering from lung infections. A month later he was discharged and returned to the mountains of north-east India.

It was the opposite side of the mountain to the one on which he was born. But the "tiger of the snows" died in the same clear air in which he spent most of his life.

Sherpa Tenzing's role in the first ascent of Mount Everest was tinged with controversy from the start. After the successful conclusion of the expedition its leader Colonel John Hunt was at pains to point out that "Tenzing, though a full, gallant and much-liked member of the expedition, was in no sense a guide to the summit".

In the words of *The Times* correspondent with the party,

James later Jan Morris, "he and Hillary took it in turns to cut a route, but it was the latter who led the rope to the summit".

But from the start there were implicit allegations of a racist attitude by the climbing establishment. Certain newspapers in India and Pakistan maintained at the time that Tenzing blazed the trail and finally hailed Hillary to the summit on a rope.

Undoubtedly that was an exaggeration. But concern was voiced at the uneven-handed treatment of the two men.

Hillary was knighted where Tenzing received the George Medal and left in a position which the *Manchester Guardian*, at the time described as "embarrassingly obscure".

But none of this seemed to bother Tenzing. "I desire an end to this controversy," he told a press conference which was consumed by the urge to find out whose had been the first foot on the summit.

His humility in the situation engaged all those who met him. Where Hillary went on to become a public figure Tenzing seemed content to remain what he had always been, a man of the mountains.

Until shortly before his death he was fit and active and still led the occasional trekking expedition into the higher foothills.

There high on the roof of the world, devout Buddhist that he was, he continued to offer up prayers of thanks to a sky which he said was "the deepest blue I have ever seen".

Man loses court fight for house

Mr David Barber, a stockbroker whose former wife killed herself and their children after he left her, has lost his battle in the Court of Appeal for the return of the family's £120,000 home.

Mr Barber, a member of Lloyd's, had given the five-bedroom home to his former wife, Christina, as part of the financial settlement of their 1984 divorce.

But after Mrs Barber killed the couple's son, aged nine, and daughter, aged six, and committed suicide in March 1985, he tried to get the house back from Mrs Jacqueline Calouni, his mother-in-law.

But he was too late. By a two to one majority the three appeal judges ruled that the legal time limit to appeal against the transfer of the house had expired.

Mr and Mrs Barber married in November 1973. But she divorced him on the grounds of adultery after he left her for another woman. Mrs Barber stayed on at the family home at Hartley Wintney, Hampshire.

Lord Justice Dillon, sitting with Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Lord Justice Woolf in the Court of Appeal said he would have dismissed the mother-in-law's appeal against a judge's ruling last November that Mr Barber could appeal "out of time" against the house transfer.

But he was overruled by the other two judges, who said he had no power to grant leave. Law report, page 28

Science report

Insect-eater takes to oats
By Andrew Wiseman

A German research team has a priority programme called "behavioural ontogeny" in which they have completed a study of the kowari, a small marsupial.

The zoologists, from Erlangen-Nuremberg University, say their findings give an insight into similarities and dissimilarities between marsupials and placental mammals.

Kangaroos, koala bears and opossums are the best known marsupials. But the species include other animals living in Australia, such as the kowari, a squirrel-size mouse. In the desert its normal diet is insects, other invertebrates and small vertebrates. In the university breeding colony it

thrived on dog food, porridge and eggs.

The inter-relationship between male and female adult kowari was one of the questions on which the Germans concentrated. They divided them into groups of one male to two females. During the mating season the male would grab his partner by the neck, drag her around the cage before finally disappearing into a protected corner.

About 35 days later the female began to build her own nest, giving birth to up to six young, each a few millimetres long. They immediately crawled into the mother's pouch and attached themselves to a teat.

As the offspring's month encompassed a nipple, the

latter swelled, month and nipple forming a breast-stand. Mother and young became inseparable for 50 days or so.

When they parted, the young began to move about independently, although still blind for a further three weeks or so. As they explored their surroundings they often did not bother to find their own way back, waiting for mother to appear and enjoying a piggy-back ride home.

Another feature of kowari behaviour was the extreme tolerance of adults to offspring other than their own. Mothers groomed childless kowari, played with young and defended them. Offspring from different litters happily mixed and even partially hand-reared young were accepted.

Riding school cleared over woman's fall

Evidence given in the High Court by the Olympic rider, Richard Meade, yesterday helped to clear a riding school of blame for head injuries suffered by a pregnant woman when she fell from a horse.

The court dismissed a damages claim by Mrs Patricia Crabbe, aged 33, of Dane End, near Ware, Hertfordshire, against Birch Farm Riding School, of Boxbourne, Hertfordshire, and an instructor, Mrs Pip Bennett.

Deputy judge Sir Douglas Frank, QC, said: "The most likely explanation for Mrs Crabbe falling was that, as a result of her pregnancy, she fainted."

Woman to paint the Commons in session

By Sheila Guna, Political Staff

June Mendoza, an internationally renowned portrait painter, has been commissioned to capture on canvas the atmosphere and characters of the House of Commons.

Many MPs have been pressing Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, and Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, for a portrait of the Commons in session as there has not been one for 76 years.

Miss Mendoza, a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, has painted portraits of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Woman to paint the Commons in session

The Australian-born daughter of professional musicians, Miss Mendoza has also completed many group portraits.

After the Speaker's announcement of the commission yesterday Miss Mendoza said she expected the work to take a year. "I want to catch a likeness of the people in the Commons but I also want to catch the intimacy. In the past, paintings of the chamber have opened up the benches so that the faces are seen, but that gives the impression of a vast space."

She has already sketched the chamber and watched the well-attended debate on the Chernobyl disaster.

Marines hurt in charity run

Marine Maurice Christie, aged 22, from Dudley, West Midlands, was critically ill and Lance Corporal Colin Howe, aged 27, from Faversham, Kent, was seriously injured after an accident early yesterday during a sponsored 1,000-mile marathon which has raised £25,000 for the Save the Children Fund.

A lorry crashed into the rear of the Royal Marines' support minibus, overturning it and injuring eight of the team, part of 3 Commando Brigade at Plymouth.

The doctor had been held since Tuesday night when he appeared before a court at Braintree, Essex, in a private prosecution brought by the girl's mother. He is due to appear in court again on May 15.

Society head appointed

Mr Christopher Dicks, aged 55, managing director of Joseph Woodhead and Sons, publishers of the *Huddersfield Daily Examiner*, is the new president of the Newspaper Society.

Electrical fault shuts reactor

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

For the second time in the past few months, the Hinckley Point B nuclear power station, near Bridgwater, Somerset, has closed because of an accident.

The shutdown was caused by a fire in electrical generating equipment. The Central Electricity Generating Board said no release of radioactivity was involved.

Only one of the two AGR reactors at the station had to be closed. The board said the other was already undergoing routine maintenance.

Last November the station was shut down after an escape of carbon dioxide cooling gas containing some radioactivity.

A meeting to discuss that incident between Mr Paddy Ashdown, Liberal MP for Yeovil, and Somerset County Council representatives will take place with the generating board next week.

Failure of electrical generating equipment is not regarded as a primary problem for nuclear reactor safety.

As a general rule, the steam produced by the heat which continues to come from a reactor for several hours after shutdown, is discarded via condensers and cooling ponds, or cooling towers, depending on the station.

Explosives remand

Michael McKenny, aged 59, a farm stockman, of Castle Wellan Road, Dromore, Co Down, Northern Ireland was remanded in custody yesterday by Lambeth magistrates in south London charged with conspiring to cause explosions in the United Kingdom last year.

He is charged with conspiring with Patrick Magee, aged 34, Gerald McDonnell, aged 34, Peter Sherry, aged 30, Martina Anderson, aged 23, and Ella O'Dwyer, aged 26, and persons unknown, to cause explosions between January 1 and June 23 last year.

Rape charge doctor on bail

A hospital doctor aged 49 accused of raping a girl aged eight was yesterday released on bail after an application to a judge in chambers at the Chelmsford Crown Court, Essex.

The doctor had been held since Tuesday night when he appeared before a court at Braintree, Essex, in a private prosecution brought by the girl's mother. He is due to appear in court again on May 15.

Lloyds' chess tournament finishes in tie

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

The Lloyds Bank international chess tournament at St Helier in Jersey ended in a tie between Robert Bellin, the Norwich international master, and Gary Quillan, aged 15.

They entered the last round yesterday leading the field with 6½ points each.

Quillan forced a win in 36 moves against Konings; Bellin took longer to beat Sheila Jackson.

Results in round 9: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 8: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 7: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 6: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 5: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 4: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 3: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 2: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Results in round 1: Jackson 0, Bellin 1, Konings 0, Quillan 1, Milnes ½, Thomson ½, Moetteli 1, Reazin 0, van Putten 1, Benson 0, Fulton 0, Le Banco 1, Blaw 1, Delaney 0, Soesan 0, Scott 1, Wojciechowski 0, Whitley 0, Cullip 1, Poulton 1, Morrey 0, Waterfield 1, Neve 0, Queree ½, Flewitt ½, Walker 1, Kevin of the Teachers 0, Platt ½, Godfrey ½, Murray ½, Capsey ½, Baccot had the bye.

Sale room

Parrot masterpiece by Lear fetches £48,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A copy of Edward Lear's *Illustrations of the family of parrots*, set for sale by the Duke of Northumberland, was sold by Sotheby's yesterday for £48,400 (estimate £15,000-£20,000) to a private collector. The magnificent book was begun by Edward Lear at the age of 18 and took many years to complete; it contains 42 hand coloured plates and was published between 1830 and 1832. This copy was bound with Goussier's *Family of toucans* and the price, no doubt, reflects its dual origins.

The duke had also sent for sale a three-volume book of illustrations of East Indian plants, which sold for £12,100 (estimate £5,000-£7,000). The 295 hand coloured lithographs were based on illustrations commissioned from the Indian Army by Nathaniel Wallich, who ran the East India Company's Botanic Gardens at Calcutta about 1830.

The two-day sale of natural history and travel books ran mainly in line with expectations, but had a sprinkling of exceptional prices for rarities. Among them was £44,000

(estimate £10,000-£15,000) for a group of four charts of the Indian Ocean.

At Christie's first modern art sale in Milan, the daughter of Alberto Magnelli (1888-1971), the Italian artist, set a new auction price record for her father's work when she paid 138 million lire (estimate 60million-70million lire) or £55,200 for a triptych of 1936. She also paid 62 million lire (estimate 40 million to 50 million lire) or £24,840 for a 1937 abstract. The sale totalled £690,000 with 36 per cent unsold.

Decorative arts at Christie's South Kensington included very high prices for Lalique glass. A "Sophora" vase moulded with foliate branches made £1,050 (estimate £500-£800) and there was a top price of £3,400 (estimate £2,000-£3,000) for a "Tourbillon" vase. Clarice Cliff, in contrast, was hard to sell, and a couple of high-priced items failed to find buyers. The sale made £53,266 with 20 per cent unsold.

Yesterday's sale report stated that Berkeley Castle was run by Madame Tussaud; it is still owned by the family.

Learning to live with a nightmare one year on

By Peter Davenport

Bradford may have learnt to live with the legacy of its football ground fire catastrophe but it remains a shared grief that cannot be forgotten.

The nightmares of those involved linger on, a telephone help line receives calls and the hospitals are still treating the badly injured.

This weekend marks the first anniversary of the fire on May 11, which claimed 56 lives, injured 56 and reduced the main stand at the Valley Parade Ground to a mass of charred timber.

Tomorrow a bronze memorial bearing the names of those who died will be unveiled, followed by a memorial service in the city's cathedral.

Relatives of those who killed and those who survived injured will be in the congregation. Mrs Wendy Harrison, Bradford's newly appointed fire co-ordinator, said: "We are still helping people and they are recovering slowly. The weekend will be difficult for the survivors and little things will trigger off their memories. It has been a difficult year for most people."

Miss Irene Senior, the principal social worker based at Bradford's Royal Infirmary,



Scene of the Bradford football ground inferno a year ago

who has been closely involved with the after-care of victims, said: "People have not recovered and we need to make it clear that there are still those in the city who may need our help. A lot of people who were at the fire have not come forward, and it is possible that they may need our help in a number of ways."

"People who were not burnt or bereaved were still injured by the whole experience. The problem is by no means over and a lot of people need a lot of support."

Experts believe that even now it is too early to measure the degree of psychological impact resulting from an event that was witnessed live by thousands of people and seen by millions more on television. Twelve months after the

disaster, the National Health Service is still evaluating the lessons learnt in coping with so many serious burns victims.

Although all the in-patients had been discharged by August last year six of the victims still attend St Luke

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

How severely has the Government been damaged by Ryedale, West Derbyshire and the local elections? Are these just extreme examples of mid-term depression? Or are we seeing the first signs of terminal illness, in much the same way that Labour's electoral humiliations in 1967 and 1968 presaged the defeat of the Wilson Government in 1970?

Two developments struck me during my visits to Ryedale and West Derbyshire: the widespread criticism of the Government on the doorstep, and how instinctive it has become for many people to vote tactically. These trends are linked.

The criticism of the Government is all the more damaging for often being assumed rather than argued. It frequently seems to be taken for granted that "she has gone too far" and that it is imperative to "get this lot out".

It was this general disaffection, this feeling that the Government has become remote and insensitive to public opinion, rather than any tactical failings in the conduct of the campaigns that was responsible for the setbacks.

It is when the defeat of a particular candidate is accepted as the overriding priority that people are ready to vote tactically. The Liberals were openly playing for the tactical vote in both campaigns, but what was significant was that so many people needed no prompting.

Consequences of tactical voting

The natural effect is that the main enemy for the Conservatives differs from one contest to another. This is sometimes presented as a Conservative advantage. The party has the luxury of a divided opposition, so it is said.

I do not see it like that. The more the opposition to the Conservatives is split, the harder it will be for any other party to win an overall majority of seats. But the more tactical voting there is, the more the electorate is concentrating on defeating the Conservatives, the more seats they are likely to lose.

According to the conventional wisdom, there will be much less tactical voting in a general election. Up to a point that is true.

There will be many constituencies in a general election, when there are fewer individual constituency opinion polls, in which it will be difficult for the prospective tactical voter to know in which direction to move. It was critical that he knew in Ryedale and less certainly in West Derbyshire.

There will still be a good many constituencies, however, in which people will be able to work out for themselves how to vote tactically, if they are sufficiently determined to get the Conservatives out. But will that still be the prime consideration when the electorate is choosing a government?

Importance of schools crisis

Much of the indignation in the by-elections was focused on issues that are either purely local or ephemeral. The composition of the next government will not be determined by the future of the Filey coast-guard station. Pensioners will surely have forgotten by then their resentment at the modesty of their 40p rise.

Whether rural bus services will be mutilated by the new arrangements should be clear by the general election. If they are, the Conservatives will be crucified in country areas that they will not suffer if justified, then the issue should disappear.

There are other grievances that will not so easily fade away. The political importance of the schools crisis is now, I believe, appreciated by the Government. I am not so sure about the hospitals.

It is not enough for ministers to point out that more is being spent nationally on the health service in real terms. Many people are convinced either that the money is going to another part of the country, or that it is not being used to improve the care of patients.

I am not suggesting that the Conservative cause is now lost. If the economy continues to expand as ministers are predicting, especially if this brings even a small downward trend in unemployment, the political mood could be transformed. Other issues may come along to dominate attention.

But the lesson for the Government this week is that it will be doomed if it cannot convey the impression that this is an administration that can listen as well as preach.

'Hijacked' Bangladesh polls closed as Ershad ponders his next move

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Compelled finally to face the reality of the "election hijack" committed by its supporters the Bangladesh Government has suspended the election in 109 constituencies while it considers what to do next.

Counting has been stopped in those constituencies where presiding officers closed their polling stations because of violence, intimidation or ballot seizure.

The 109 constituencies represent more than a third of the 300 which were open to election for the national Parliament. Returning officers, who are the deputy commissioners in each district, were last night besieging the Election Commission in the capital with anxious inquiries as to what they should do next.

They were told that they must make a report in writing to the chief election commissioner and have it sent by hand, a process that, with land communications being as they are in the riverine countryside, could take some time.

The commissioner will then decide whether the votes in the booths that were suspended would materially have affected the total result. If that

is the case, a further poll will have to be held in those constituencies.

The decision to stop the polls came as 184 results had been announced.

One of the astonishing aspects of the whole election was that despite the wholesale ballot rigging and violence that was well-attested by journalists and other observers, the opposition Awami League was running neck-and-neck with the government Jatiyo party.

In fact for much of the day the eight-party alliance around the League had a majority of seats.

Cynics in the League suggested yesterday that the polling was stopped because the Government did not like the number of seats the opposition was getting.

Dr Kamal Hossain, a senior figure in the Awami League and its presidential candidate in the last elections, declared squarely: "The Jatiyo party was not leading in those constituencies."

Dr Hossain was unofficially declared to have lost in both the Dhaka constituencies he was contesting despite the fact that this reporter, among sev-

eral others, saw blatant violence and intimidation.

A senior official of the Election Commission, Mr Burhanuddin Ahmed, said yesterday that seven other constituencies in which the result had not been announced would soon be completed.

He said that two seats which had been announced as going to the Awami League had been wrongly awarded. In one the Jatiyo party had won and in the other the seat was won by a National Awami party candidate.

Asked why the total number of seats announced had dropped from 186 to 184 Mr Ahmed said, shrugging: "There may be some mistake in the calculation because people have been working day and night."

The People's Commission for Free Elections, which was established under the aegis of the Awami League to provide an "impartial" oversight, reported yesterday that Election Commission officials were under the instructions of the Army in certain areas and that the Army helped candidates in Chittagong, Faridpur, Khulna and other places.

Gadaffi threatens Egypt and Italy

Colonel Gadaffi, saying Libya would attack any country displaying hostility or encouraging "terrorism" against it, has singled out Italy and Egypt as possible targets (Reuter reports).

In a speech in Benghazi, monitored by the BBC in London, he said Libya would answer violence with violence.

He said, referring to last month's US air raids on Tripoli and Benghazi: "From now on, vis-a-vis Egypt, Italy and any country which we consider in a hostile position to us... we will treat them as America treats the world now."

Nor would Libya "turn a blind eye to any new US campaigns from Italy", he said, adding that the Sixth Fleet, which uses Italian ports, could be destroyed by Libyan suicide operations.

"If the Americans land on the Libyan coast, they will burn; they will die. I ask for one million Libyans to be ready to fight in cities and what is requested is that each one of you pays the price of a rifle..."

After what he called the failure of last month's attacks, he said the US was thinking of

deploying cruise missiles against Libya.

"To hell with cruise missiles. We do not fear cruise missiles... We have a right to our land. Our determination is stronger than their iron, which we have weakened and destroyed."

● CAIRO: Colonel Gadaffi lost 300 troops in last month's raids and made up the story that a girl who was killed was his adopted daughter, a former Libyan prime minister said (AP reports).

Mr Abdel-Hamid Bakoush, who was Prime Minister when the colonel seized power in 1969, said: "Gadaffi made the claim just to make the Libyan people believe that he was sharing in the consequences of the American attack. A girl indeed was killed, but her father is a soldier and he is alive."

● MADRID: Spain expelled Mr Saed Mohamed Alsalam Esmail, the Libyan consul-general, accusing him of helping a Spanish army colonel, named as Carlos Meer de Ribera, military governor of Avila, to seek support for extreme right-wing activities from Colonel Gadaffi (Reuter reports).

Achille Lauro sentences cut on appeal

Rome - A Genoa appeal court has reduced sentences for the illegal possession of arms imposed on the Palestinian hijackers of the Achille Lauro cruise liner in October (John Earle writes).

Magid Molqi, described as the gang leader, had his sentence cut from eight to 6½ years, and Ibrahim Abdelatif from 7½ years to 5½ years.

The court confirmed the lower sentence of four years given to Ahmed el Assadi, the moderate Ansal Dal party's 73 legislators defeated in protest at last week's common assault on the temple.

To halt further erosion of his political base, Mr Barnala appointed nine of his legislators to the chairmanships of public-sector corporations.

Damascus warned by Peres

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel had no intention of attacking Syria and there were no indications that Syria planned to attack Israel in the near future, Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, said yesterday.

But Syria faced "real and clear risks" if it was found to be behind future terror incidents.

During a radio interview he discounted as "mere rhetoric" reports that an attack of any sort was imminent.

The Prime Minister was reacting to a report in the US by the CBS network quoting Israeli military experts as saying it was necessary to strike quickly because of the rapidly growing strength of the Syrian Army.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, was also said to have told American officials during his trip to Washington this week that Israel was going to retaliate against Syria because it was behind last month's attempt to blow up an El Al jet flying from London to Tel Aviv.

In his interview Mr Peres avoided saying what Israel would have done if the jet had exploded in mid-air. The Syrians now had a very clear choice, he said. They would have to run the risk of being a land from which terror was carried out, or they would have to exclude themselves from "this very dangerous club".

Junejo under threat

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Pakistan's Lower House of Parliament, has asked the Chief Election Commissioner to decide whether Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister, and about 50 other MPs should be disqualified.

Several independent members of the assembly said Mr Junejo and the MPs had joined a political party contrary to a constitutional provision which barred members of



Professors strike

About 300 professors, students and staff members of the American University of Beirut have refused to work until the release of Beirut's latest kidnap victim, Professor Nabil Matar (above).

Dr Natar, aged 36,

professor of cultural studies, was kidnapped three days ago as he was walking to the campus.

The university's 100-member foreign faculty and staff have shrunk to fewer than a dozen in the past three years.

Deadlock at Addis conference

Addis Ababa (AFP) - Two days of reconciliation talks between Horn of Africa neighbours Ethiopia and Somalia ended here yesterday without the two sides apparently having come to grips with the substantive issues at stake.

In a joint press statement, the two merely said they had decided to meet again in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, to try to reach final agreement on the agenda.

That clearly suggested that the first formal conference between the rival East African states in 10 years had not gone beyond considering, much less agreeing, on a mutually-acceptable agenda.

The meeting was the first session of the Ethiopia-Somalia ad hoc committee proposed by the two countries' leaders early this year.

Dangers at sea

PARLIAMENT MAY 9 1986

Bill to reduce death toll of fishermen

COMMONS

Labour MPs from constituencies having strong links with the fishing industry warmly congratulated Mr Albert Morris (Barnet and Finchley, C) on the passage through the Commons of his Safety at Sea Bill, designed to improve safety requirements for fishing vessels.

It contains provisions dealing with emergency position indicating radio beacons, automatic release life rafts and life jackets.

As sponsor, Mr Morris said, when successfully moving the third reading of the Bill, improved safety would make a significant contribution to safety. The sea was a dangerous place and fishing a dangerous occupation and it would always be so.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, SNP) said he regretted that the requirement about wearing a life jacket on deck had not been achieved but was pleased that earlier during the report stage a clause on safety training had been inserted.

Mr Ian Mearns (Barnet and Finchley, Lab), reminding the House that he had a large fish market in his constituency, said its prosperity and therefore the employment of

some of his constituents depended on the work of fishermen.

I never put a piece of fish into my mouth (he said) without silent thoughts of the fishermen who have gone out in the kind of weather we have had this past winter.

The Bill was read the third time. It now goes to the House of Lords.

● During the report stage, a Government new clause on safety training for fishermen was successfully moved by Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport. It allows the Secretary of State for Transport to make regulations for safety training and provides for fines to be imposed on owners, skippers and other seamen who contravene them.

Mr Mitchell said his own general preference was that such matters be put on a voluntary basis but the industry was prepared to see this power on the statute book. Fishing still had four times more danger than coal mining, a powerful argument for compulsion.

Whether such things as fire fighting and first aid might be covered by the regulations later would need to be discussed with the industry. Mr Mearns there was no

indication about the quality or length of training courses or about the subjects to be covered.

Mr McQuarrie: The instructors are men of the highest qualifications and cover fire fighting, survival at sea and first aid.

Dr Norman Godman (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab) asked if the Government was satisfied with the level of provision, quantity and quality of fire fighting training for fishermen. The only training seemed to be a one day course.

Mr Stuart Randall, Opposition spokesman on fisheries (Hull West, Lab) said it was crucially important that fishermen should undergo training whether provided voluntarily by the industry or by the state, and it was questionable whether the minister should have the level of discretion provided by the clause.

The new clause was agreed to and added to the Bill.

● A new clause providing that immersion suits should be made available for each fishing crew member was withdrawn after Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, explained that consultations would be taken place with the industry on the issue.

There might be a case for carrying immersion suits on certain fishing vessels (he said). I do not wish to pre-empt the outcome of consultations, but if it was decided there was need for a compulsory requirement that they be carried, the statutory powers to make regulations already exist in the Fishing Vessels Safety Provisions Rules 1970.

The new clause was unnecessary. If the consultations were positive, there was power to secure implementation.

● The Civil Protection in Peacetime Bill to enable local authorities to use civil defence resources in peacetime emergencies and disasters, and the Consumer Safety (Amendment) Bill, to protect consumers from a wide range of dangerous and unsafe products, also passed their remaining stages.

On the latter, the Bill's sponsor, Mr Cuan Gregory (York, C) said about 7,000 people died each year in home accidents, more than were killed on the roads.

The Bill embraced all areas for which consumer regulations already existed - electrical pushchairs, children's nightwear and cosmetics. It was aimed at catching the unscrupulous.

Shultz admits Marcos problem

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, said yesterday that former President Marcos of the Philippines had become a problem for the US because he no longer wanted to remain in exile in Hawaii but had nowhere else to go.

"We don't want people in our country who don't want to be there," Mr Shultz said. "So if there's some place else where he can go, that would be better."

No third country was prepared to take Mr Marcos and risk souring relations with the new Philippines Government. "So I guess under the circumstances, he probably will be staying in Honolulu," Mr Shultz told the departure press conference in Manila after a 25-hour stop-over for talks with President Aquino.

Mr Shultz and President Reagan asked the Aquino Government last week to reissue Mr Marcos with a passport to allow him to travel to a third country.

The former leader's passport was cancelled soon after he arrived in Hawaii on February 26 after fleeing the revolt in Manila.

Although Mrs Aquino has not formally rejected her request, her Cabinet is opposed to the idea and instead wants Mr Marcos to remain in the US where he is facing criminal proceedings in connection with huge property holdings allegedly illegally obtained.

Mr Shultz said the issue of a passport for Mr Marcos was not raised in any of his talks. "I didn't bring it up and other people didn't bring it up."

During her 45-minute meeting with Mr Shultz, Mrs Aquino told him that Washington's offer of an additional \$150 million (about £95 million) aid to the Philippines' debt-ridden economy fell "far short" of the country's needs.

Kimono fit for a British Princess

From David Watts, Kyoto

The Prince of Wales would make a good Buddhist monk and the Princess of Wales could clearly match that of any prince.

Prince and Princess had a day of marvellous sunshine in Kyoto, the city that was Japan's capital for 1,000 years. Prince Charles discussed Buddhism with a leading priest in an exquisite mountain-side temple, while the Princess of Wales took a few gentle steps in a 2,400-year-old kimono which took 100 days to make and was the gift of the city's kimono makers' association.

Since the kimono makers did not know the Princess's exact foot size, they made 10 pairs of the required socks.

To the delight of her hosts, she briefly donned the kimono when it was presented to her at a garden party at Nijo Castle.

After walking past a line of tiny schoolchildren, fairly bursting with excitement and chanting "Diana San, thank you for your letter", she and the Prince were served sweet rice cakes by the tea master of the world's largest tea ceremony, the Urasenke school.

Whisking the green liquid to a froth, Grand Teasmaster Sushitsu Sen XI intoned: "In my hands I hold a bowl of tea. I see the whole of nature."

The highlight of the day for Prince Charles appeared to be a visit to Toji-ji Zen temple, founded in 1235. The jolly chief priest, Teizan Yasuda, when asked if the Prince would make a good Buddhist monk, replied: "Of course, because he has a very honest character."

Last night, after a reception the royal couple attended a formal Japanese dinner given by Mr Shintaro Abe, the Foreign Minister. The 12-course meal included a Western salad at the request of the royal party.

Washington view

Undertones to new harmony

US actions where events outside the Nato alliance produce world crises.

Dr Kissinger also touches on something that has long bled Americans, especially this Administration: the "myths" that Europe, more sophisticated and worldly wise, can restrain the "immature, belligerent Americans".

He denounces European governments who pander to this perception to curry favour at home.

Dr Kissinger echoes some of the anti-Europeanism of the New Right here today. It is a feeling as much directed against the old liberal US establishment, perceived as incorrigibly and smugly transatlanticist, as it is against European liberals who are soft on communism but quick to exploit US markets.

But such views, currently fashionable, are still not those of the American heartland. As one senator's aide told me, most Americans still take pride in their European origins, like to go on holiday there, stand in awe of European culture and react to anti-Americanism with hurt and mystification.

Many in ignorance of the relative statistics of road accidents and plane hijackings, are cancelling their holidays to Europe this year. But few want the US to turn its back on its old allies - although these allies must understand the US today is sharper and more belligerent in defending its own, American, interests.

Improved consultation, the traditional medicine for alliance ills, will not suffice. Europe must no longer feel free to dissociate itself from

further unilateral strikes against nations defying the new Shultz doctrine on hitting back against terrorists.

Officials in and out of government agree that the sharp divergence goes deeper than mere differences on how to deal with terrorists.

Mr Richard Burt, the feisty US Ambassador to Bonn, argued recently that the real reason lay in differing views

on the use and limitations of power.

In all world crises over the past 20 years, he said, the dominant US impulse was to do something about situations Washington would not accept. Europe, by contrast, preferred to "finesse" itself from the consequences of events it felt powerless to influence.

Mr Burt believed the answer lay in trying to boost the Europeans' self-confidence, making them more able to stand up for themselves. This could only come through greater political unity, which the US should encourage.

By contrast, Dr Henry Kissinger thinks only the shock of the US insisting Europe do more to defend itself will restore the concept of "reciprocal obligations", now being drained from the alliance.

Improved consultation, the traditional medicine for alliance ills, will not suffice. Europe must no longer feel free to dissociate itself from

General strike threatened in Gibraltar

From Dominique Searle, Gibraltar

Gibraltar's commercial shipyard is in jeopardy and the colony threatened by a general strike after relations between workers and management collapsed this week.

Without consulting their union, the 600-member workforce ejected the management of Gibraltar from the yard on Wednesday and demonstrated in Main Street. They queued for unemployment benefit to try to force the Gibraltar Government, which owns the yard, to take action.

On Thursday police had to intervene when demonstrators tried to burn an effigy of Gibraltar's managing director, Mr Brian Abbot, in the town centre.

All branches of the union are meeting today to decide whether to call a general strike. The union is determined that the management negotiates without preconditions and co-operates with the union, or leaves Gibraltar.

The action follows months of tension and failed attempts at negotiation. The last time a general strike was held in Gibraltar was in 1974.

Strike-hit supermarket may sack black staff

From Michael Horasby, Johannesburg

South Africa's biggest supermarket chain, Pick 'n Pay, said yesterday it was considering whether to issue an ultimatum to striking black staff to return to work by early next week or face dismissal.

The company also said it had been forced to close three hypermarkets and seven supermarkets because of "unruly behaviour" by strikers who had invaded the stores, threatening customers and other staff still working.

Pick 'n Pay, which has an annual turnover of 2,250 million rand (£700 million), operates about 90 retail outlets throughout the country and employs 21,000 people, of whom 14,000 are black, Coloured (mixed-race) or Indian.

According to the company, 6,200 employees at 45 stores are involved in the strike.

It began on Tuesday after two months of negotiations broke down. The union is asking for an across-the-board wage increase of 90 rand a month. Management has offered 80 rand backdated to March, with a further 30 rand from July 1.

The strike affects mainly till operators, packers, cleaners and canteen and warehouse staff. Pick 'n Pay has managed to keep most of its stores open by hiring white housewives and schoolchildren on holiday to supplement skeleton management staffs.

An explosion on a fire escape staircase near a Pick 'n Pay supermarket in a northern Johannesburg suburb last Tuesday is now thought to have been caused by a limpet mine. It has not yet been linked to the strike.

What makes the strike of particular interest is that the Pick 'n Pay chairman, Mr Raymond Ackerman, has a reputation as one of the most enlightened employers in South Africa and has been one of the most outspoken business opponents of apartheid.

"This is a tragedy," he told *The Times* on the telephone from Cape Town. "We have built our company on human relations. They are striking against a company that has been fighting apartheid for 15 years."

The average monthly wage of Pick 'n Pay's black employees is about 430 rand a month.

The Chernobyl disaster: meltdown fears as squabbles break out in the EEC

Technicians tunnel under reactor to inject concrete layer

By Robin Young

Soviet technicians are desperately tunnelling under the Chernobyl atomic reactor in an attempt to inject more concrete beneath the existing floor.

Some experts believe that the Chernobyl pressure vessel — which could lead to a meltdown — may already have been destroyed.

Mr John Large, a consulting engineer who did research work for the UK Atomic Energy Authority on reactor installations, said yesterday: "It is probable that the reactor was supported by a steel diaphragm of structural webbing over three or four and a half metres of concrete which would break up at any temperature over 1200°C."

"By burying the fire the Russians have simply prevented it from cooling down. If the reaction is entirely uncontrolled it would be equivalent to 4,000 megawatts of energy, sufficient to vaporise its way through the concrete."

Mr Peter Potter, a nuclear reactor physicist and former overseas manager of the National Nuclear Corporation, said a meltdown is a real possibility at Chernobyl.

"But the idea of a nuclear molten pool melting its way through the centre of the earth is a science fiction myth."

"It will stop itself. But if the mass burns its way through the reactor's concrete foundation, and if the water table is close to the surface, the reaction will create a chain of volcanic explosions. The size of these explosions is unpredictable."

"We just don't know the

true scenario to this disaster. But rivers, reservoirs and waterways will be contaminated. Contaminated water could reach as far as the Black Sea, but by then it will be greatly diluted."

Dr Richard Downing, manager of the hydrogeology unit at the British Geological Survey, said: "If there is a meltdown there is a heat factor and a radioactive contamination factor."

"Contaminated ground water will move towards the nearest river system, but the movement of ground water is very slow. There will also be a chemical reaction between the radioactive material and the rocks."

He said the Russians could control the movement of ground water by drilling wells in the immediate area to attract the contaminated water.

"They will then have a problem of how to get rid of the contaminated water. He added they could also build a concrete wall right round the disaster zone to control the ground water flow."

Mr Stewart Boyle, national energy campaign officer for Friends of the Earth, said yesterday: "Nobody seriously thought that this could happen. If the nuclear meltdown meets the water table it will pollute the whole water system throughout the Ukraine and beyond."

Estimates of how widespread and long-lived pollution in the Ukraine might be are entirely guesswork, but Friends of the Earth point out that hundreds of square miles in the southern Urals had to

be abandoned completely after a comparatively small steam explosion at a nuclear waste dump at Kyshtyn in the 1970s.

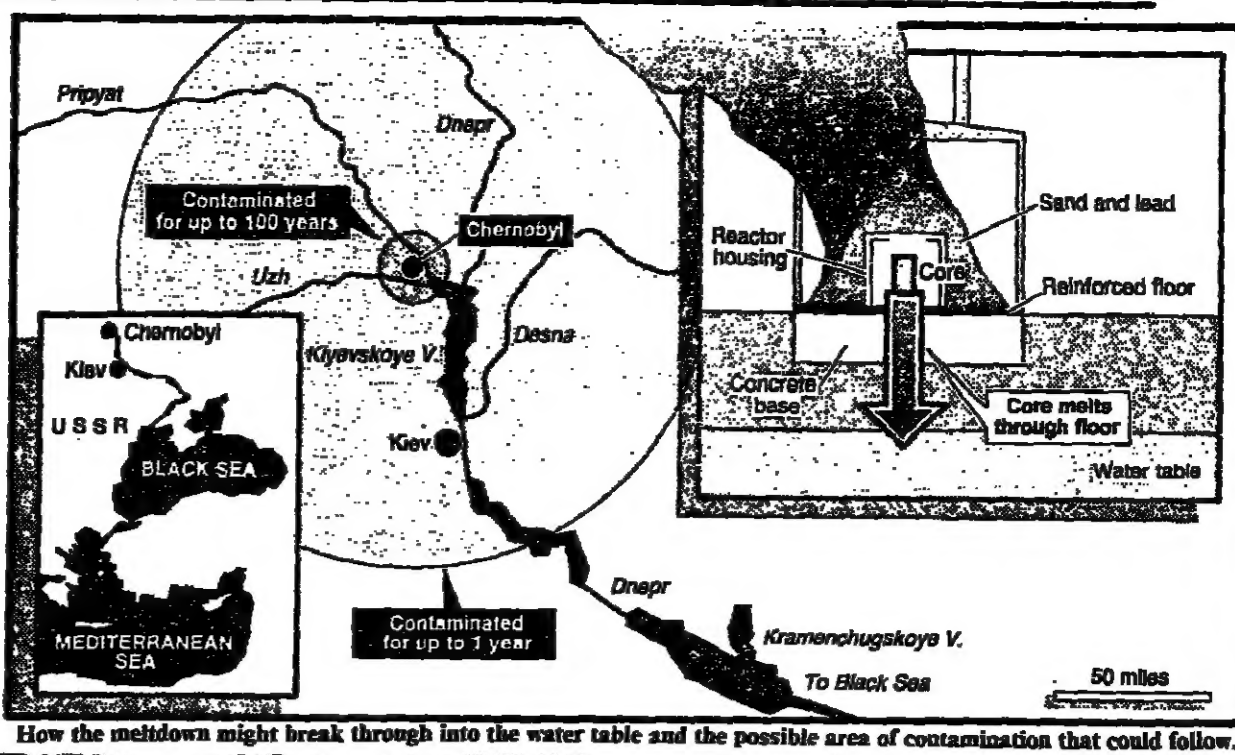
Mr Large said that if the pollution reaches the water courses it will be likely to pollute the whole of the water system of the Ukraine within a year.

"If the subsoil is clay it would absorb and retain some of the isotopes such as caesium, but there are hundreds of others such as curium, plutonium and ruthenium, which would disperse and could persist for thousands of years."

Professor Ian Fells, professor of energy conversion at Newcastle University, was more optimistic. "It would be very surprising if the meltdown has penetrated more than a few tenths of centimetres into the massive concrete foundation," he said, "though I must admit that I am concerned to hear that the Russians are talking of sealing the reactor both above and below."

"The UK Atomic Energy Authority has done all the calculations about the effect of meltdown on the concrete foundation and it is a pity that they cannot make them public."

"I can only speak from my understanding of the calculations and those which have been made by the Germans and others, and point out that in the similar accident at Three Mile Island a serious, if partial, meltdown was contained by the concrete foundation in precisely the way that the calculations suggested."



How the meltdown might break through into the water table and the possible area of contamination that could follow.



Katya Litvinova, in her mother's arms, taking the official radiometric check in Kiev with some degree of suspicion.

Chilean church defied on raids

Santiago (Reuters) — Chile's military Government yesterday defied the leader of the Roman Catholic Church and ordered more raids on Santiago slums as part of its anti-guerrilla drive.

Residents of La Bandera in the south of the capital said troops and police began rounding up men for identity checks in a local soccer stadium, the sixth such operation in less than a fortnight. The Archbishop of Santiago, Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno, said the raids spread fear and offended the dignity of the poor.

Basques claim Madrid blast

The military wing of ETA, the Basque separatist organization, yesterday took responsibility for Thursday's failed grenade attack on the President of Spain's Supreme Court in Madrid (Richard Wigg writes).

Meanwhile the Interior Ministry said Costa Rica had agreed to extradite to Spain Gregorio Jimenez, an alleged ETA member, for questioning about a series of terrorist crimes in Spain before 1982.

US Catholics in contempt

New York (NYT) — The two principal US organizations of the Roman Catholic Church have been held in contempt of court by a federal judge in Manhattan.

Judge Robert Carter ordered the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the United States Catholic Conference to begin paying daily fines of \$50,000 (about £32,000) each from Monday for refusing to turn over documents subpoenaed in a lawsuit over the tax-exempt status of the church.

Tories suffer

Ottawa — The Conservative Government of Alberta, Canada's fourth largest province, was returned to office under its new leader, Mr Don Getty, with a greatly reduced majority, winning 61 of 83 seats in Thursday's general election compared with 75 of 79 seats in 1982. The socialist New Democratic Party advanced from two seats to 16.

Back to jail

Harare — Five weeks after being freed by the Supreme Court from detention for alleged spying, two senior customs officials — Mr John Austin and Mr Kenneth Harper — were re-arrested at their homes by Zimbabwe's Intelligence Service.

Dynasty dies

Bonn (Reuters) — The last descendant of the powerful German Krupp industrial dynasty, Arndt von Bohlen und Halbach, died in a Munich clinic aged 48.

Jet victim

Colombo (Reuters) — Hannah Mahmoud, the pregnant wife of a PLO official, died from injuries received in the Colombo airport bombing on Saturday, raising the toll to 16.

Aids appeal

Washington (Reuters) — The actress Elizabeth Taylor, surrounded by scores of photographers, appeared at a US Senate hearing to appeal for more funds to fight AIDS.

Cell suicide

Avignon (AFP) — Maurizio Cirelli, aged 31, a suspected Italian Red Brigades terrorist, was found hanged in his cell here shortly before he was to be extradited to face trial in Italy, informed sources said.

Kohl will write to Gorbachov

From Frank Johnson Bonn

The West German Cabinet, at a meeting yesterday on the Chernobyl disaster, called for an emergency session of governments of the International Atomic Energy Organization in Vienna next week.

It also decided that Chancellor Kohl should write to Mr Mikhail Gorbachov expressing dissatisfaction with the dearth of information from the Soviet Union, and asking for more.

It was Herr Kohl's first Cabinet meeting since his return from the Tokyo summit and he seemed anxious to appear in command of the situation and to avoid any charge of complacency.

Ministers are infuriated by some regional governments which they believe have exaggerated the radiation levels, and suspect political motives.

Kiev sends children away

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

New evidence of concern at the radiation risks being faced in Kiev, the third largest Soviet city, came with an official announcement that all children aged between six and 13 and breast-feeding mothers are being sent away from the region for the summer.

In an effort to defuse further suggestions of mass panic, the Soviet authorities said simply that as a precautionary measure, the decision had been taken to bring forward the summer holidays of some 250,000 schoolchildren, who would normally have gone away for the summer even had there been no disaster.

The announcement, which also said that because of the disaster at Chernobyl, holiday centres in the region could not be used, followed increasing signs of a mass voluntary exodus of mothers and children from the city, about 60 miles south of the stricken reactor.

Yesterday Mr Valentin Sushynsky, the Mayor of Kiev,

told a small group of Western correspondents who have been allowed to visit the city that children of kindergarten age would remain behind because their parents would be working.

He denied that the sudden decision to move 250,000 children out early was an emergency measure, but his arguments were ridiculed by Western observers who have noted that the anxiety in Kiev about radiation — especially among parents — has consistently been higher than Soviet officials have admitted.

All week, trains arriving in Moscow from Kiev have been packed with children sent away by worried parents. The mood of panic has been increased by instructions for all children to be washed regularly, and not to be permitted into the fresh air for more than one hour a day.

The authorities have been making strenuous efforts to play down reports of panic and anxiety among the city's in-

habitants, with Soviet television regularly showing pictures of normal life there, with scarcely any mention of the anxiety being felt by many.

Western correspondents in Moscow have often been physically prevented from interviewing new arrivals here who have fled the high radiation levels.

The mood of panic has been increased by a rash of health measures first introduced at the beginning of the week and intensified after a change in wind direction increased the possibility of fallout.

Publicly, the authorities insist that these pose no danger to public health. All Kiev residents have been warned not to eat leafy vegetables and the sale of ice cream and other foodstuffs from outside stalls has been banned.

Roads are washed down regularly and all residents have been told to wash their apartments to minimize the risk of radioactive dust settling there.

Italy upset by Bonn and Paris

From John Earle Rome

Italy is angry with France and West Germany for allegedly making difficulties in the EEC for Italian exports of vegetables while playing down the radioactivity in their own agricultural produce.

Signor Giuseppe Zamberletti, the Minister for Civil Defence, said he saw "a manoeuvre against Italy".

Italy was further away from Chernobyl than other countries, yet had given fuller information and taken stricter measures, Signor Zamberletti said. But why were people abroad so severe towards Italian vegetables, he asked, and not towards milk exported by Germany?

"I would like to know the situation in France, which does not give figures of radioactivity because they are a state secret," the minister said.

Twelve again fail to agree on ban

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Two weeks after the Chernobyl disaster and five days after the EEC Commission first put forward proposals for protecting the health of European consumers, the member governments of the Twelve again failed yesterday to agree to a ban on food imports from areas of Eastern Europe affected by fallout.

The Commission set a new deadline for today but officials gave a warning that the decision might have to be made by foreign ministers when they meet on Monday, by which time it could be too late to prevent the importation of contaminated foodstuffs.

On Thursday the Commission banned the import of fresh meat and live cattle and pigs in the absence of agreement among the Twelve. But officials said the Commission did not have sufficient powers to ban other foodstuffs without the approval of the Council of Ministers.

Officials said that in the absence of a common ban, EEC member states were tending to take national measures to prohibit imports, not only from the Soviet bloc, but also from each other. This reflected fears that fellow members might have already bought contaminated products from within the *corde sanitaire*, an area within a 625-mile radius of Kiev.

One of the main obstacles to agreement is the Commission's proposal for the measurement of "maximum radiation tolerance levels". The scale is based on the maximum permissible intake of radiation in milk, fruit and vegetables for babies. It sets a limit of 500 becquerels per kilo of milk products and 350 becquerels per kilo of fruit and vegetables.

EEC scientific experts met yesterday to revise the scale.

Athens backed over Turkey

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece was assured yesterday of the European Community's full sympathy over its problems with Turkey, which have prompted Athens to resist the resumption of normal relations between the EEC and Ankara.

The assurances were given by Mr Claude Cheysson, the European Commissioner for Mediterranean policy, to Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister. They were plainly reflected in answers the European official gave later at a news conference.

A Greek government spokesman said Mr Papandreu had laid down two conditions to Mr Cheysson for ending the freeze imposed on EEC-Turkish relations after the 1980 military coup.

First, Turkey had to rescind legislation discriminating against Greek citizens in Turkey and, secondly, Greece should be exempted, for security reasons, from the Community obligation to open its doors to Turkish workers after December 1 this year.

The spokesman said that unless these conditions were met, Greece would refuse to ratify Turkey's association treaty with the Community. This could create obstacles to the resumption of Turkey's associate membership and the release of financing to Ankara.

Mr Cheysson said he saw logic in the Greek arguments. The Turkish decree of 1964 which barred all transactions of property owned by Greek citizens in Turkey was a measure of discrimination incompatible with the provisions of the EEC-Turkey treaty of association of 1963.

The Commissioner, who came to discuss with Greek leaders regional problems affecting the Community, said he would visit Ankara next month — the first Community visit to Turkey at that level since the 1980 freeze — and would urge Turkey to end discrimination against Greeks.

He said the Commission's proposals on the free movement of Turkish workers made adequate provision for national security susceptibilities of member countries. The Greek Government would be able to exercise its sovereign rights to control the flow of Turkish labour, he said.

Greece has opposed recent Turkish efforts to improve its relations with Europe, but its EEC partners, and especially Britain, feel a revival of links would encourage Ankara to improve its human rights record.

Mr Cheysson said the present effort was to restore relations with Turkey only at the level that existed before the 1980 freeze. Further progress, he insisted, would be conditional on an improvement of democracy there.

Top men sacked by Unesco

From Diana Geddes Paris

The first session of the executive board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to be held since Britain's withdrawal in December, got off to a stormy start here this week with the dismissal of two senior officials, renewed pressure for the replacement of Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, the Director-General, and persistent rumours that Japan was also considering leaving.

In a speech at the opening session of the executive board on Wednesday, Mr M'Bow said the withdrawal of the US in 1984, followed by that of Britain and Singapore at the end of last year, had meant a 30 per cent reduction in Unesco's budget.

As a contribution to savings which had to be made, 558 staff posts were to be abolished in addition to the 97 abolished last year.

Only 205 of the posts were filled at the time of the decision, but 19 employees would have to be made compulsorily redundant, Mr M'Bow said.

Among those dismissed are Mr Dragoljub Najman, a former Assistant Director-General.

Mr Erwin Solomon, an American, and Unesco director of socio-economic analysis, has also been asked to leave.

The post of Director-General, which Mr M'Bow has occupied since 1974, comes up for election next year. Nominations are not due until autumn, but a movement has begun to block Mr M'Bow's election for a third term.

Several countries, with Japan at their head, have indicated that they would have to consider following the US and Britain in leaving the organization if Mr M'Bow were re-elected.

Portugal and Brazil have been bound by each other's language and history since the 1500s when the Portuguese explorer, Pedro Alvares Cabral, discovered Brazil.

Over the centuries hundreds of thousands of Portuguese have emigrated to Brazil, and many have returned rich.

President Sarney said Brazil wanted to establish a relationship that would open a window of understanding and co-operation in Europe.

Portugal and Brazil have been bound by each other's language and history since the 1500s when the Portuguese explorer, Pedro Alvares Cabral, discovered Brazil.

Lange attacks Nato and Britain

From Richard Long, Wellington

Nato nations were criticized by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, last night for their reliance on the nuclear response.

In a vigorous speech which drew cheers from his supporters for the Labour Government's anti-nuclear stance, Mr Lange said: "We believe that the fate of the world should not be the exclusive property of the nuclear powers."

"It is, for instance, outrageous to us that the defence of Western Europe is based on Nato's promise to blow up the world if the Russians attack them with overwhelming conventional force. They have no right to decide the fate of all the rest of us."

Referring to the visit to New Zealand in February of the British defence chief, Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse, Mr Lange said: "The British sent an admiral out to lecture us this year. Some of the press here seemed to think that they had a right to do that. We are not a colony."

Mr Lange said there was no point in New Zealand remaining in the Azus alliance if the Americans viewed the alliance as the global projection of its nuclear policies.

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Seven women named in new Oslo Cabinet

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, the new Norwegian Prime Minister, took office yesterday and set what was thought to be a world record by announcing that seven of her 17 Cabinet appointments are to be women.

Her fulfilment of a pledge of sexual equality made last week, after she agreed to form Norway's first minority coalition government in 25 years, caps an extraordinary period in a country not normally noted for the liveliness of its domestic politics.

Mrs Brundtland, the Labour Party leader, has taken office after the first collapse of a Norwegian government outside a general election since the 1920s. Mr Kari Willoch, her Conservative predecessor, resigned last month after Parliament failed to approve an emergency austerity package.

Norway's constitution does not allow for a national election before 1989, and some analysts are convinced that Mrs Brundtland, despite pledges of Conservative support, will be unable to form a

workable consensus for long. But if Mrs Brundtland is deterred by the prospect of political chaos, with the Conservatives bidding their time until 1989 in the role of blameless opposition, she is not about to show it.

She is clearly determined to come out fighting, not only on budget measures, which are likely to include tax increases on higher incomes, but also on foreign policy. It is likely that Norway will now join such nations as Denmark and Greece in vigorous opposition to some Nato policies.

The new Cabinet is: Prime Minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland; Foreign Affairs, Knut Frydenlund; Finance, Gunnar Borge; Defence, Johan Joergen Holst; Consumer Affairs, Anne-Lise Bakken; Industry, Finn Kjennerud; Justice, Helen Borge; Religious Affairs and Education, Kirsti Kollie Groendahl; Culture, Hallvard Bakke; Agriculture, Gunhild Oeyangren; Environment, Sissel Roenbeck; Oil and Energy, Arne Rosen; Transport, Kjell Borge; Social Affairs, Tove Strand Gardersen; Development Aid, Vesla Veysen; Fisheries, Bjørn Mørk; Trade, Kurt Mosbakk; Labour and Municipalities, Leif Haraldsen.

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SPORTS DIARY

Simon Barnes

Cloud Kiwi land

The New Zealand rugby team today play the first unofficial international match of their South African tour. The likelihood of this rebel tour has been talked about ever since the official tour was cancelled last summer, and it was being spoken of as definite in rugby circles since last November. Indeed, for some considerable time, money for the New Zealand players has been stashed in a Hong Kong bank, if they are banned from playing Rugby Union again each will receive £40,000, on top of the substantial "daily allowance" they are now receiving. Yet only last month the New Zealand Rugby Council was saying it knew nothing about any rebel tour. At the same time, the council was employing a company run by Andy Hayden, the rebels' trouble-shooter and a second row player, to promote its own new image and logo. Since rugby authorities cannot possibly lie, the Kiwi bunch can only be naive to the point of incompetence.

Rugby does not have a proper world body, the International Board having a different function and being largely toothless anyway. This makes the problem of running the World Cup, scheduled for next year, particularly vexed. What does rugby do about New Zealand? If all the players on the South African tour were banned the effect on the World Cup and the way it is supported would be disastrous. For nine of the 11 World Cup venues are in New Zealand.

Hobbit habit

Learn from *The 1986 Cricketer's Who's Who* that Mike Gatting is an expert on the works of Tolkien. Having recovered from the initial shock, I can see why. Gatting is a dead-ringer for Gimli, the heroic dwarf who slew 42 Orcs with his axe in the battle for Helm's Deep. Gatting is seen as a contender for the England captaincy, a post currently held by David Gower. But Gower too is something of a Tolkien character: he reminds me of Gimli's great friend and rival, Legolas the elf — dainty but lethal.

Years ahead

Britain's first senior sports festival is being held at Harrogate this weekend — a competition for all sports people who fall into what each sport considers the "veteran" class. Six hundred competitors are taking part in 10 sports. Male tennis players start at 45, there is a road-running category for the 50-plus and a swimming event for those over 70. Most intimidating of all is a mini-triathlon for those of 40 and more which comprises 18 miles cycling, a five-mile run and a half-mile swim.

Flip

Joggers pound the streets while music pounds their ears from their Walkman personal stereos. One's heart has always bled for the poor swimmers; their sport is even more boring but they have nothing with which to alleviate the tedium. At last relief has been found for this legion of sad people. A waterproof personal hi-fi for swimmers has been developed in the United States; it costs \$40, and is called Aqua Tunes.

Return volley

Martina Navratilova has been caught trying to sneak a gun on board a plane in the States. She had a Smith and Wesson .38 and 10 rounds of ammunition in her bag as she passed through airport security in San Francisco. She was fined \$1,000 for the offence (the maximum) and the gun was confiscated. She said the gun had been mistakenly put into her bag by a friend who had helped her pack. It could happen to anyone.

Angled shots

The BBC's coverage of the world snooker championship, which ended this week, was rather peculiar. The Beeb decided to do all it could to make sure that the name of the sponsor, Embassy, did not dominate every background which made for some rather convoluted camera angles. Furthermore, it decided that the one thing we must never see is snooker players smoking. I would have thought that if you wanted to communicate the full nastiness of cigarettes, then filling the screen with the tortured inhalations of Jimmy White and Alex Higgins would put everyone off for life. Funkies injecting themselves look scarcely less attractive.

BARRY FANTONI



David Butler puts Thursday's votes in a general election perspective



Change is the cry—and any change will do

Thursday's votes proclaimed two conflicting messages. If the whole country voted like West Derbyshire there would be only 92 Conservative MPs in the next parliament; if, indeed, it voted like Ryedale there would be no more than a dozen Tories left. The Alliance would win a clear majority in the Commons.

On the other hand, if the whole country voted as it did in the local elections Labour would be on the brink of a nationwide triumph, with 320 or so seats to the Alliance's 30.

Either message is disastrous for the Conservatives. However, if they seek comfort, the most they can boast is that they did not actually lose in West Derbyshire or in Wandsworth. They can reflect that they still control 11 of the 32 London boroughs (in 1964 they had only nine) and that they still have about 670 London councillors (in 1971 they had only 601). Their loss of seats nationwide must be set against the fact that 1982 was the Conservatives' best year since they took office: to hold even the bulk of the seats won in the midst of the Falklands war would have been a notable triumph for Mrs Thatcher. In fact she lost only as many as Conservative Central Office expected.

Moreover she has the perverse comfort that Labour is the main beneficiary. The unspoken Tory-Labour compact against third party intruders seems to hold good and, in terms of votes, the Alliance made little net improvement on 1982 or 1983.

But what must be ominous for the Conservatives is the uneven nature of the results. In terms of seats the Alliance did make a net gain; this was because its advances came, in large measure, where it was strong. It made little dent where Labour was the Tories' principal challenger.

The Alliance sweep forward in the south-west London suburbs of

Richmond, Kingston and Sutton was matched in some prosperous areas of Sussex, Hertfordshire and the West Country. Tactical voting was further demonstrated by the way the rump of Conservative voters in Liverpool, Tower Hamlets and elsewhere switched to the Alliance.

The by-elections provide the same message. Of course it may seem odd to speak of tactical voting when the Labour percentage held more or less steady. But it is plain from the opinion polls that in the multiple paths of switching between the parties (Conservative to Labour, Conservative to Alliance, Alliance to Labour, Labour to Alliance), the natural gain that Labour could expect from the government's unpopularity was fully offset by a tactical move to the Alliance from some Labour supporters.

Contrast the last three by-elections.

| Labour vote 1983 | Con | Lab | Alln |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 34.9 Fulham | -10.4 | +11.3 | +0.3 |
| 17.1 Derbyshire W | -18.4 | +2.7 | +12.4 |
| 10.3 Ryedale | -17.9 | -1.9 | +19.8 |

Despite the distraction of the local elections, the voters in West Derbyshire and even more in Ryedale showed that they knew as well as the voters of Fulham how to cast an effective anti-Conservative vote. The mood expressed on Thursday was perhaps a demand for change — any change.

But it was significant that, while many voters showed they could discriminate between local situations in order to cast the most effective anti-Conservative vote, they showed little propensity to differentiate between the hard left, the cuddly left and the moderates. Labour fared as well in Liverpool and Lambeth as in Birmingham and Hammersmith. The swing swung equally to the rate capers of Militant and its enemies.

The Conservatives now control a bare quarter of the district councils in Britain — fewer than those that lack a clear majority and offer mini-versions of a hung parliament. They do not govern any major city except Cardiff, Portsmouth and Plymouth. In Scotland they have dismally fallen to third place in terms of the outcome of the regional council elections was projected as 45 per cent Labour, 18 per cent Scottish National Party, 15 per cent Conservative and 14 per cent Alliance.

One lesson of the by-elections is affecting Conservative, not Labour, strength. If the Alliance wins seats like Ryedale it does nothing to change the number of Labour MPs; however it reduces, not only the Conservatives' prospects of a clear majority but also their chances of being the largest

party in a hung parliament, with the attendant claim to be asked to provide a minority government.

Certainly Thursday's results add to the chances of a hung parliament. Labour may present statistics that show it with more than the magic 326 seats. But a general election will be very different. Choosing a government, or even a hung parliament, concentrates the elector's mind wonderfully.

The government counts on a political recovery comparable to that of 1981 to 1983. But it knows that will be much harder to achieve this time. Over the next year Norman Tebbit and Conservative Central Office will have to steady the party's shaken morale and trust that Nigel Lawson's economic management and the image-makers' presentation of a caring party will restore the situation in time.

Labour believes it is on course. The council elections will foster its renewed self-confidence. But it will have to leap over the Alliance as the challenging party in a fair number of seats, and it must also prevent further damage from the Militant row. Indeed it might have preferred a worse result in Liverpool — it may even look forward to one later this year if the Appeal Court ousts their surcharged councillors.

The Alliance, the party with the most volatile support, must be immensely grateful to the electors of Ryedale for obligating the conclusions that people were drawing from Fulham. But it will not find it easy to keep in the forefront of the news.

In our three-party politics only a few per cent stand between riding a landslide and being obliterated by one. The variations of Thursday's vote show that either fate could befall any party.

The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

Paul Craig Roberts assesses the damage caused by the Reagan budget aide revelations—to Washington and himself

The whizz kid who ended up in deficit



Stockman: an unfavourable comparison with Judas

the budget deficit to higher taxes and lower spending. Disgusted with the triumph of politics, Stockman exited and told his tale. Only a few months out of government, the former poor boy lives in a \$2 million house and is driven to work on Wall Street in a chauffeured limousine — proof that the rewards for disloyalty can be very high. Anyone else who gets the chance can be forgiven if he behaves in the same way.

Stockman's story is neat but disingenuous. In fact he bears a major responsibility for the failure to cut spending. His approach to the task was incompetent and doomed to defeat. In weekly secret meetings with William Greider of the *Washington Post* he revealed all his budget strategies in advance to his ideological enemy. Stockman has never given a convincing explanation for this unusual tactic. About the only explanation that makes sense is that he was trying to insure himself against the failure of the policy by using the *Post* to build a record of his personal doubts.

The atmosphere of continual crisis which Stockman created also worked against him. Despite spending cuts and tax increases, the deficit always got bigger. For example, the 1982 tax increase was supposed to reduce the deficit by one-third, but by September

Stockman's projections showed that it had doubled. Stockman's aides have publicly admitted that the crisis strategy backfired and Stockman himself reports that friends in Congress warned him about an adverse reaction to the political trauma he was creating. But in his book he makes it clear that he doesn't think anyone's advice is worth hearing.

Stockman's worst mistake was in helping to overturn the initial supply-side/monetarist forecast early in 1981. The forecast was overturned because the conventional economists in the government believed that they would be "the laughing stock of the world" if the administration predicted low inflation. Stockman was pleased to support a higher inflation forecast because it added nearly \$200 billion to revenues and let him please Reagan by forecasting a balanced budget. The Treasury strenuously opposed this decision. It wanted the deficits on the table where everyone could see them so that they could not become a danger to Reagan's policy. But it was overruled.

Having jacked up the inflation forecast, Stockman then undercut his balanced budget by helping to convince the Federal Reserve Board that the administration's fiscal policy was inflationary. The tax cut was too big, Stockman

maintained. The fiscal stimulus would be excessive. The deficit would get out of hand and result in higher inflation. Coming from the budget director, this terrified the central bank, which was certain that it would be blamed.

The central bank overreacted and slammed on the monetary brakes in a way that caused a sudden collapse in the inflation rate between 1980 and 1982. This meant that the spending cuts Stockman thought he had achieved were turned overnight into increases in real government spending. Spending actually rose as a share of GNP, and gaping holes appeared in revenues. Stockman reports that as a result of the budget director's monetary policy GNP this year is \$660 billion below the forecast. The government's share of that is 25 per cent — \$165 billion, about the size of this year's budget deficit. After proving that monetary policy caused the large budget deficits, Stockman then disingenuously blames the 1981 tax cut.

In the end he is settling scores with the Treasury supply-siders who predicted in advance the failure of his tactics. But it all rings hollow, because in the end Stockman has been proved wrong on all substantive points. Both inflation and interest rates collapsed despite the large deficits. Since 1982 the economy has created 10 million jobs while inflation fell — another "impossible" result. The budget deficit did not force up inflation or interest rates, because the same disinflation that produced the deficit produced the means of financing it. People simply stopped investing in "inflation hedges" such as gold, commodities, farmland and antiques, and began buying financial assets such as stocks and government bonds.

Unfortunately for Stockman, his book predicting budgetary doom appeared just at the time when mounting evidence points in the other direction. The latest deficit projections by both the administration and Congress show deficits half the size of Stockman's former predictions. Other economists are finding that the Reagan tax cut produced a substantial increase in private saving. Allen Sinai has published his results showing that over the 1981-85 period private saving rose by nearly \$600 billion above the previous trend. This increase in private saving covered 60 per cent of the cumulative budget deficit for the period.

With the actual results so dramatically at odds with Stockman's predictions, he would seem to have little prospect of a career as an economic seer. And having burnt all his bridges by attacking everyone in Washington, he is unlikely to reappear on the political scene in the foreseeable future. *The Triumph of Politics* may turn out to be an obituary not of Reagan's economic policy but of a young man still in his thirties who was too ambitious by half.

The author was US Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy, 1981-82.

Woodrow Wyatt

Schools: a task for the peers

Last summer a combination of enlightened Tory and Alliance peers did noble work on improving the Trade Union Bill. It was largely due to them that the final Act enshrined secret postal ballots as the norm, strengthened the procedures for the secrecy and good governance of workplace ballots and made it easier for union members, through the certification officer, to force union executives to conduct elections properly or to re-run them if they had not been.

The government's resistance to the changes it now welcomes was inspired by civil servants. They maintained that the evidence of malpractice in union elections was not sufficiently strong to warrant reform. They ignored the vast amount of solid evidence to the contrary.

The persuasive power of civil servants over their ministers should never be underestimated. Now they are at it again. Civil servants in the Department of Education are saying it is neither necessary nor wise to do anything in the Education Bill now going through the Lords about political indoctrination in schools or insisting that the police are allowed to continue talking to pupils about crime prevention. Again a number of Conservative and Alliance peers will move amendments during the report stage on May 20 to compel the government to change its mind. It is remarkable how much common sense comes out of the haphazardly composed second chamber.

These peers are particularly concerned about the promotion of partisan political teaching in state schools and want it stopped. The government, advised by senior civil servants, argues that a bill about education implicitly excludes the promotion of partisan politics; if that is so what point is there in making the exclusion explicit? It also says there is "insufficient evidence" of abuse. How, then, would it explain away *Auschwitz*, an ILEA guide instructing teachers to impress on their pupils the similarity between the Nazi exterminators and the government's so-called anti-trade union legislation; the brutality of Britain's police; the denial of human rights allegedly basic in the Prevention of Terrorism Act; the "anti-immigration laws" and so forth.

Lord Harris of Haggerston sent a copy to Sir Keith Joseph on February 18. It is not a long document; all its salient points could be absorbed in half an hour. But to date Lord Harris has been

told only that he will have a reply when inquiries are complete.

The government seems unconcerned about that dishonestly named subject, peace studies. Teachers are urged by their organizations and some public bodies to seek information overwhelmingly from such groups as CND, the National Peace Council, Teachers for Peace and others which campaign for one-sided nuclear disarmament. Sources such as the Ministry of Defence and the British Atlantic Committee hardly get a mention; no pro-Nato campaigning organization is mentioned at all.

In *Peace Studies for Schools*, John Marks presents massive evidence of the heavily biased nature of the political propaganda in schools in favour of the CND position. DES officials officials have doubtless put the document under the carpet.

Another amendment in the Lords, backed by Lady Cox and Lord Harris, will concern a requirement on every school to provide courses by police officers on crime prevention and road safety. At present 23 ILEA schools will not allow the police in. Those who rule the ILEA, and who used to rule the GLC, are more interested in attacking the police than co-operating with them. Other local authorities are following the ILEA lead.

The police also talk to children about the dangers of drug abuse. It is sad that this government, supposedly engaged in an anti-drug campaign, is indifferent to the refusal of schools to permit the police to advise pupils how to resist drug pedlars.

Proportional representation for elections to the ILEA and local authorities generally would probably prevent extreme left-wingers within Labour groups, which themselves are elected on a minority vote, carrying on political indoctrination and attacks on the police in schools. But this is not to be, at least for a long time. Meanwhile political indoctrination by Marxist and CND teachers is flourishing because ministers are not willing to stop it. No one is suggesting there should be no discussion of politics for those old enough to understand it; only that children should not be filled with one political view to the exclusion of all others.

I hope that on May 20 every peer concerned about the children now at school and about future generations will rally round those Conservative and Alliance peers who are insisting that the government takes all necessary action.

Henry Stanhope

An easy guide to the EEC

The Common Market was started by those countries which had lost the Second World War, so that their farmers had somewhere to sell their butter and long-life milk. Britain did not join because it had won the war, like the Americans, and anyway did not care for the French, the Germans and the Italians or for that matter the Belgians, the Dutch and the people from that other place.

Thanks to a martial plan which was imposed by the United States to keep them in order, the countries which had lost the war soon began to do better than those which had won it. This was obviously unfair, so the prime minister, Harold Macmillan, went to see General de Gaulle, and told him that Britain had decided to let bygones be bygones and join the Common Market after all. But General de Gaulle, who did not like the British because they had won the war and because they could not speak French, said "Non" several times very rudely. This proved that he was a nasty man, a bad loser and thus typically French.

The Labour party was against joining the Common Market anyway because it was full of people who were making a lot of money and didn't like going on strike. But when Harold Wilson, who wore a raincoat and had a photographic memory, became prime minister he forgot this and went to Paris himself saying he wouldn't take No for an answer. So General de Gaulle said "Non" again instead, which made Wilson's colleague, George Brown, very tired and emotional. Then Wilson remembered that he hadn't really wanted to join the Common Market anyway, and everyone decided that Britain would wait for General de Gaulle to die.

General de Gaulle was succeeded by Monsieur de Pompadour, a retired bank manager who kept appearing on television smoking Gauloises. Because he had worked in a bank he didn't care who joined the Common Market so long as they had the money, so when the next British prime minister, Edward Heath, who played the piano and had a funny laugh, went to ask him, he clapped him on the shoulders, sending clouds of garlic and Chateaufort du Pape over him, and wheezed: "Mais oui, certainement mon vieux", or words to that effect. All agreed it was one in the eye for the late General; then they sat back and waited for Britain to grow rich like everyone else.

Before very long they realized that Britain couldn't, because it had really been tricked by Monsieur de Pompadour into paying a

bigger annual subscription than anyone else, to make up for the fact that its farmers were more efficient than those in France. Moreover, under Common Market rules, the British were required to eat French Golden Delicious apples instead of Cox's Orange Pippins.

When Margaret Thatcher became prime minister she said she had had enough of this. So they called her the Iron Lady and had a big row outside Paris, before the French gave her some money back and promised that they would all start eating English lamb — because they had to under Common Market rules. This proved that Mrs Thatcher was even nastier than General de Gaulle, a still worse loser and thus typically British.

The French, the Germans and the Italians, not to mention the Dutch, the Belgians and the people from that other place, now thought they had shot Mrs Thatcher up and could thus start dealing with the Danes, the Irish, the Spanish and the Portuguese, not to mention the Greeks whom they disliked even more than the British. But when Mrs Thatcher heard of this she said "the lady's not for turning" and anyway, she wanted to start talking about CAP — which had something to do with rates.

The trouble with CAP was that the French farmers, to show they were not really as inefficient as everyone said, had been producing more food than everyone else could possibly eat.

They couldn't give it all away to people who were starving in Africa because it would make them fat and be very bad for them — so they had to store all the surplus butter inside a mountain in Brussels called the Beur-le-Mont. The mountain had a lake at the foot of it, into which they poured all the wine that was left over — because people couldn't afford to drink it, and a tower block called the Chariemagne in which they were storing grain.

But the rates on all these were so enormous that Mrs Thatcher said they would have to start CAPping them, or she would have another row when she was president. She also wanted British Airways to take over all the routes in Europe, which would mean that everyone would have to take out British life insurance, and said that the trouble with the Common Market was that it wasn't nearly common enough.

This was exactly what the Labour party had objected to in the first place — which explains why everyone agreed in 1986 that it was no longer an issue in British politics.



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ELECTORAL WARNING

The morning after the election-night before is rarely a time when much heat is generated among political combatants — or much light shed on the political scenery. Despite the very best endeavours of the broad-casters the nation's leaders and would-be leaders find it hard to raise their tired minds above the responses they have all used so often. Mr Steel knows what Mr Tebbit is going to say about the Government's nasty defeat at Ryedale. Mr Tebbit knows exactly what Mr Steel is going to say.

If Labour's Mr John Cunningham were to faint under the studio lights the Conservatives' Mr Kenneth Baker could deliver his lines with no less aplomb — and, given the common courtesies among fellow parliamentarians, he might easily be tempted to do so.

Thus the response by Mr Tebbit that the Conservatives had so often regained at general elections the seats that it had spectacularly lost in mid-term will have surprised no one. The viewer is enjoined to remember poor Mrs Shirley Williams from Crosby, the tragic Mr Tope from Sutton. Where are they now, the Mrs Shields of yesteryears? Not that the argument is any less sound for being familiar. Nor is there anything wrong with Mr Tebbit's long list of government achievements in controlling inflation, the trade unions and in rolling back the frontiers of state power.

Today, however, is the morning after the election night before. The complex pattern of local election results, the campaign reports, the market research on the party political broadcasts; they are all piling up on party bureaucrats' desks. For the sake of Mrs Thatcher's government — and of future such governments — it is of critical importance that the closed minds of the broadcasting studios open up to allow in some light.

Taken together, the loss of Ryedale, the near loss of West Derbyshire and the scale of election reverses throughout the country are a grave political challenge to the Government. A very large number of anti-Tory verdicts have been cast. The common denominator of virtually all the voting has been a willingness to vote for the opposition party with the best chance. The Conservatives now face two enemies each of which is capable of damaging them in different sorts of seat. The Alliance, it seems, cannot win inner cities and industrial areas to any significant extent, but Labour (rejuvenated and smartened by Mr Kinnock's agreeable manner) now once again can. Labour on the other hand could never come near threatening the Conservatives in the better-off suburbs or the rural and county areas of South or even North.

The danger of the Tories losing their overall majority at the next general election may still, of course, not be very great. Another truism of the broadcasting studios is that, during a general election campaign in which the Government can probe and expose its opponents' policies things are likely to look significantly different from the way they do now. Moreover, Labour is not

likely to achieve an overall majority even on its current showing.

But that is not the be-all-and-end-all. What the Labour advance and the Alliance squeeze together indicate is that Labour could well become the largest single party, become, indeed, the party of government and then (as in 1966 after 1964) go on to establish itself securely in power.

What then, are the possible explanations for the anti-Tory reaction at the polls and can it be reversed? One answer to the first question is that the voting public, which gave Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues full credit in 1983 for their success in dealing with the crucial problems of the time, is not persuaded that they are adapting themselves to deal with the different questions that now dominate the political concerns of the nation. Mr Tebbit's list of successes is admired. But it is also taken for granted. And it does not, necessarily prove to voters that a new list can be compiled.

What then should the Government do? The answer is certainly not to reverse its anti-inflation policies and to go into competition with the Opposition parties' spending promises. When governments steal their opponents' clothes, the public concludes that if it is going to have opposition policies reluctantly imposed, it might as well have them put into practice by those who genuinely believe in them.

The true answer is much more complex. Any look at the local government elections shows inevitable reflections of local priorities, as well as attitudes to the national political parties. To talk therefore about a single message from Tamworth or Tayside (both areas where the Conservatives lost heavily) is wrong. But the local concerns do have a pattern. They point, for example, to the centrality of education as a concern of voters. The pattern has to do with civic expenditure and, perhaps behind that, with voters' confidence in the management and maintenance of basic public services. There is a sense in which local Conservatives have been found untrustworthy in their management of those services. This shows through particularly in the most affluent areas of the nation. In the south west London suburbs the great issue determining votes was schooling. The Alliance won votes on a promise not just to spend more but to "care". This connection between the Conservatives' alleged "parsimony" and shabby, inadequate services was evidently a factor elsewhere.

Meanwhile in the cities, Labour gained. It was perceived as the party that would maintain high levels of public provision. That sentiment secured the return of Labour administrations in Haringey and Lambeth, outweighing what were genuine misgivings among traditional Labour supporters about such Labour leaders as Ted Knight and Bernie Grant.

And yet in Wandsworth a Conservative council, committed four-square to rates reductions and privatization of public service, was returned to power. A plausible

explanation is that voters in the main do not care much for the municipal unions or council jobs as such; they do care for the efficient emptying of bins. Perhaps Wandsworth's politicians were able to make convincing distinctions between public services where there was room for economy and those, such as education, where levels of expenditure deserved to be maintained.

Is there a message here? There might be. The Government has been attempting since last Autumn to put across the fact that for many years its rhetoric has been tougher than its real-life behaviour. It has piled statistic upon statistic, speech upon speech to prove its high and "caring" levels of public expenditure, but it has not succeeded. Such success as it was beginning to achieve was swept away in the welter of administrative and political failures surrounding the Westland affair, the BL debacle, the Sunday shopping fiasco and too many others.

That does not mean that the tactic was a mistake. It simply shows that it was difficult. And the more embattled the Government became, the greater the risk that changes towards a more truthful presentation of its public spending record would embolden the Cabinet's big spenders to demand still bigger slices of tax-payers' cash. That risk still looks very grave.

The job needs to be begun again. Mrs Thatcher is not going to change the nature of her appeal. She is tough in a crisis, unbending, the tamer of price rises and trade union rioters. Others must take the strain of presenting the policies where Mrs Thatcher's personality is ill-suited to the message. Neither in health nor in education has this been achieved.

The task of exploiting the Prime Minister's strengths and supporting her weaknesses can be given only to someone in whom she has complete confidence. Mr Tebbit was meant to be that man. The removal from the chairman's office of the loyal but lightly-armed Mr John Gummer was the signal for the new beginning. But that beginning is still awaited. Mr Tebbit has proved himself the first rate street tactician and the rather less than first rate political philosopher that his friends always knew he was. But the difficult strategic work shows no signs of being done. Moreover, the party organisation — particularly at Ryedale — was not such as to inspire great confidence. The Labour party's organisation, shown not least this week by its party political broadcast — has improved mightily.

All criticism of Mr Tebbit tends to come from sources that are well known for being hostile to Mr Tebbit, Mrs Thatcher and the entire thrust of past government policy. That is why so little notice is taken of it. To criticise the party chairman, to call for a better deal for education, to ask that some of the doubts in the suburbs be listened to, is to brand oneself as an unfriendly critic. That is not a charge to which *The Times*, a friendly critic of the Government, feels vulnerable. Thursday's elections should give pause for great thought from the Prime Minister and her party.

FOURTH LEADER

Summer has come to China — and that is official. Or rather, it has come to some of China, some of the time — and that is official too.

Last weekend, China added daylight saving to the many questionable benefits it has borrowed from the outside world. Summer time, Chinese-style, began at 0200 Peking time last Sunday, and the Chinese who — it should be remembered — have no experience of changing their clocks, were advised that they could, if they liked, alter their timepieces the previous evening.

A great many Chinese did not like. They included the directors of the country's rail, bus and river transport who rejected the whole idea. Long-distance trains are now running one hour late (when they are on time). So are the buses. Flights, on the other hand, are operating in summer time. Taking the train to catch the plane is not such a good idea in China just now. It adds to the strain.

Still confused? Try listening to the radio to check the time. You will hear the time given in Peking summer time even if

you are many hours' flight away from the capital. (Almost the whole country runs on Peking time, though it spans the equivalent of three US time zones.)

Should you mistakenly tune into Peking radio's service for Taiwan, however, you will be behind the times again. The published schedule now applies one hour in arrears. Mainland listeners will, as the radio helpfully says, have to add one hour to the programme listings to receive the scheduled programme. This ambiguity is likely to persist. Peking's adoption of daylight saving makes it that much less likely that Taiwan will follow suit.

There was something of the same tardiness about the decision to start saving daylight in the first place. Peking announced in mid-April that summertime was being postponed until the first weekend in May, because otherwise there would be no time to make the change public. Next year, summer in China will start a month earlier (unless it is decided to turn the calendars on instead).

Not that the inhabitants of the land of Greenwich Mean Time have much to boast about. This year the time-honoured (that is more than 70 years old, with periodic breaks) institution of British Summer Time was scheduled to begin, variously, on March 16, 23 or 30 according to which diary you chose to believe — and all because of a late decision that summer British-style should be synchronized with the usually superior summer enjoyed by our European neighbours. It had the added benefit, for the French, of leaving Paris with its 60-minute start on London.

Not that we need have noticed until a good 48 hours after the change. Easter and the ensuing bank holiday intervened to postpone the reality of a lost hour's sleep. Some clocks, as usual, remained unadvanced for days.

In this, as in much else, Britain has much in common with China where — and this is official — the business of advancing the clocks in public places is the responsibility of "someone authorized by the departments concerned".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Labour cure for poor schools

From Mr Peter Heath
Sir, It is typical of the Labour Party that its remedy for poor schools should be to close the good ones. (See Mr Giles Radice's remarks in Ryedale yesterday.) Mr Kinnock has long been associated with this policy of bitter envy and distorted prejudice and those who vote for this party should recognize that they are voting for a national closed shop in education where we would all be at the mercy of political "advisers" (such as there were in Humberston not many years ago) and the reckless arrogance and greed of the NUT. At the moment many parents, like myself, who would happily send their children to State schools reluctantly spend money, which they cannot easily afford, to send them instead to schools where mental and social discipline are acknowledged as fundamental to personal development and where the example of teachers assists and does not impede this process.

Whether one opts for State education or private depends often upon where one lives and may even vary with the particular child — there are not a few parents who have children at both State and private schools. And while we may benefit from the charitable status of private schools, it should be remembered that we continue to finance, through our rates and taxes, the State schools upon which we make reduced or no demands. The problem is not quite so simple as politicians. Yours faithfully, PETER HEATH, 10 Carrington Avenue, Cottingham, North Humberside, May 2.

Paper chase

From Mr R. F. Jones
Sir, When I moved from my last house the new occupant was plagued with the usual readressing of my mail.

I telephoned one particularly persistent mailing company, after digging through the waste paper basket to retrieve their envelope, in order to quote the mailing code. I was informed that, as it was a house code, my name would be deleted instantly from their list.

Today I received the following, forwarded from my old address: As we have numerous lists, it would help us a great deal if you could forward to us the label on the envelope you have recently received. If, in fact, you have now discarded this, perhaps you would forward the next one you receive. Yours faithfully, R. F. JONES, 58 West Kensington Mansions, Beaumont Crescent, W14, April 23.

From Miss T. S. Bohane
Sir, Earlier this week I was somewhat surprised to receive a communication from the Inland Revenue at my business address. (Incidentally, it was incorrectly addressed to me as Mr. . . .) A handwritten note on the small form containing the address advised me that they did not appear to have a record of my private address and politely asked me to supply this in the space provided. In the same envelope was my income tax return form correctly addressed to me at my private address! Yours faithfully, T. S. BOHANE, 16 Shindfield Street, W12, May 1.

Happy days

From Mr H. R. Buller
Sir, Your leader of today ("Is everybody happy?", May 5) Mauritus could beat the Egyptians in public holidays. When I was Rector of the Royal College there we used to "enjoy" more than 30 public holidays annually, as the minimum had to be multiplied by five in order to satisfy Hindus, Muslims, Chinese, Creoles and Europeans. Yours faithfully, BRIAN BULLER, Chapel Cottage, Bromyard, Croy, Hereford.

How long, O Lord?

From Mr Bernard Cobb
Sir, We are indebted to Mr John Stonestreet (May 5) for his invaluable advice regarding the mileage he can get from the final "Amen" of the Mass. Indeed, it is only in *The Times* that one is likely to find such essential information so well expressed.

I am thus encouraged to raise a reverse problem of tempo. For some time I have enjoyed listening to Brahms's second piano concerto on my return to Bookham from visiting a client in Basingstoke. However, due to improved roads in general and the M25 in particular, I am now obliged to listen to the final seven minutes of the last movement in my driveway. This invites occasional criticism from others quite close to me and I wonder if anyone can recommend a 43 minute recording of this piece.

Yours faithfully, BERNARD COBB, 89 Eastwick Park Avenue, Great Bookham, Surrey, May 6.

From Mr Malcolm M. Gullis
Sir, David Selman (April 29) appears to forget like so many people that organ volunteers are not an optional extra, but form an integral part of divine service. While the Psalmist implored us to praise the Lord upon the pipe, he did not specify a time limit! Yours faithfully, MALCOLM M. GULLIS, 24 St Nicholas Close, North Bradley, Wiltshire.

Finding home for the observatory

From the Chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council

Sir, The Royal Greenwich Observatory has had a distinguished history and for the last 38 years of its 311-year life has been situated at Herstmonceux, Sussex. At the present time, however, unlike the earlier days of RGO, it cannot perform front-line optical astronomical observing directly from the United Kingdom. The telescopes now are on remote mountain sites.

There are, or shortly will be, four optical telescopes, including the new world-class 4.2 metre William Herschel telescope, on La Palma in the Canary Islands, probably the best site in the northern hemisphere. The prospects for UK optical astronomers have never been better. Furthermore, infra-red and millimetre radio-wave telescopes are sited on Hawaii giving, with the radio-telescopes in the UK, a range of ground-based facilities second to none.

In all these circumstances the council has concluded that astronomy in UK universities will best be served by relocating the observatory on, or adjacent to, a university campus, from which the RGO could derive complementary benefits for its future role.

The RGO has to operate, maintain and develop the optical telescopes and their instruments. This requires not only participation in the observational programmes but also continuing R & D (research and development), at the forefront of what is possible in a wide range of applied physics and engineering techniques to ensure that the instruments continue to lead the world.

The chosen campus, therefore, should have strengths in astronomy, physics, control and electronic engineering, computing and micro-electronics to provide a reservoir of activity covering as many of the RGO's tasks as possible.

The council has discussed extensively eight possible sites (including Sussex, of whose astronomy centre Sir William McCrea was a founding and distinguished member) and three have been selected for further study. These are the universities of

Cambridge and Manchester and the Royal Observatory Edinburgh/University of Edinburgh.

The views of a wide range of individuals and institutions are being sought about these options. The pros and cons are delicately balanced but there is no reason to delay a decision about the desirability of a move, on which council was unanimous.

The council will require that the move should not interfere with the commissioning of the new telescope on La Palma and that the move should be self-financing. The council wishes to ensure the effective exploitation of its investment of nearly £50 million over recent years in telescopes and is confident that this object can be achieved in each of the options under further study.

Your readers will see, therefore, that the RGO is neither to be closed (as your Science Editor wrote, March 21) nor dismembered (as Sir William McCrea wrote in your edition of April 23).

In addition to the primary astronomy support there are a number of smaller activities at Herstmonceux which have their own importance and which council will provide for, as far as is possible on the new site. These include the collection of rare books, general and scientific archives, HM Nautical Almanac Office, the satellite laser range, astronomical work and a number of other items.

The RGO will provide for astronomical exhibitions for schools and the general public wherever it moves. In addition there is a small exhibition centre at Herstmonceux, not in the castle, but at the site of a group of small telescopes at the edge of the estate. In order that this exhibition should continue council is prepared to create a "bubble" fence around this small plot, if any local or national organisation were interested in taking charge of it.

Yours etc, E. W. J. MITCHELL, Science and Engineering Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire, May 6.

places, an attitude so very different from that experienced before the creation of the welfare state. Before the 1939-45 war good neighbourliness was clearly apparent in areas where there was more poverty than comfortable living and mutual aid among neighbours was the order of the day.

Much good is done by the welfare state, at an enormous cost; but a great deal of its workload could be reduced if good neighbourliness was a reality in every street in every town and village. That it is not so highlights a cardinal failure of the Church.

Yours faithfully, J. W. K. TARTING, 86 Kensington Park Road, W11, April 30.

DIY conveyance

From Mr Richard H. Tyler
Sir, I perceive from your property article on DIY conveyancing (April 23) that it is once again open season for solicitors. I would like to correct some wrong impressions to which the article may have given rise.

Firstly, the two per cent of purchase price quoted by the Consumers Association as the fee charged by solicitors for a purchase seems to be confused with estate agents' charges on a sale which range from 1% to 2% per cent. Solicitors' conveyancing charges in this area have for some time ranged from half to one per cent. These charges are controlled ultimately by the Law Society.

Secondly, I would challenge the association's statement that "DIY conveyancing is straightforward where the house is occupied by an owner-occupier and the title is registered with title absolute".

Incidents can be learned quickly by new entrants to these fields. It is therefore particularly relevant to the work of local authorities and national bodies responsible for protection of our heritage who need rapid access to cost-effective, anti-fire technologies.

Yours faithfully, DEREK SMITH, Director, Fire and Materials Centre, Queen Mary College, University of London, 101 Marshgate Lane, E15.

Nation shall speak . . .

From Mr G. W. M. Kremer
Sir, I suppose one should be grateful in a way to Secretary of State Shultz for confirming that the worlds of American foreign policy and of the "B" movie have finally coalesced. His comment to Colonel Gaddafi, reported in *The Times* of May 6, "You've had it, pal", continues the style set by the former President Nixon. "I am not a crook", and opens speculation about likely contexts for other Hollywood obiters.

"Come up and see me some time", "Play it again, Sam", and "Time wounds all heels" may seem fairly innocuous in an international context. However, when "You dirty rat" and "Make my day" enter the register of diplomatic exchanges we should do well to be alarmed. Yours faithfully, G. W. M. KREMER, 26 Pridaux Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 10 1919

The *Turritella* had been captured by the German raider *Wolf* and a prize crew put on board. The *Aden* Patrol vessel was HMS *Oribi*, commanded by Lt-Cdr P. H. Fox. Our Correspondent was Paymaster Lt-Cdr Cyril Fox.

ON A RAIDER'S TRAIL

(From a Naval Correspondent)

At the beginning of March, 1917, I was in HMS — on the *Aden* Patrol — a dull job, as all patrolling jobs are. But we did not pretend to be pining for the more thrilling occupation of searching for the German raider *Wolf*. Her gun could out-range the guns of our little ship so effectively that, had we met her, we should probably have been blown out of the sea before we could put a shot anywhere near her, and, frankly, we had no great desire to meet her.

About 10 o'clock one evening a signalman appeared at the watch room door with a message from the bridge: "From the officer of the watch, sir. Ship on the starboard bow showing no lights."

"Probably an old tramp scared out of his wits by these yanks about the *Wolf*," suggested someone. . . .

We had been ambushed along coastwise at night, however, the order was given to increase to 10. The shutter of our signal lamp began to rattle.

"What ship is that?" The signalman had to repeat the question twice before he evoked an answer. . . .

"What is your name?" asked the patient signalman. This time the mysterious stranger expended volubly.

"*Turritella*, London. Runs for British Admiralty. Port Said for orders. . . ."

The signal lamp of the unknown vessel began to scintillate again. "Who are you?" ran the simple message.

There was certainly a directness about the question suggesting a bluff old English seaman. "A British man-of-war," was our answer. A little later we followed it up by a peremptory order to the stranger to stop. When the signal lamp began to flicker again, it seemed to show just a trifle of hesitation.

"Why did you not stop me when I was passing *Aden*? Meadows, Master."

His meaning was plain enough. We could have ordered him to stop when we first sighted him, when we were within range of the shore batteries, and when there were British men-of-war lying fast round the corner inside the harbor. He evidently suspected us of being the German raider. . . .

The officer just relieved from the bridge became meditative.

"There was something funny," he said. "Even about the last signal making us stop. Did not stop him at *Aden*. The signalman told me that he first sighted *Aden* with a 'V' and then corrected it."

"Number One, tell them to stand by the searchlight," said the captain to the first lieutenant. "Signalman, tell him to place his navigation lights."

Very promptly in response to the signal the lights appeared upon the strange ship.

"New masts, remain where you are. I will board you at daylight."

When the distance between the ships had been reduced to about a mile the order was given to switch on the searchlight. The great white streak shot across the sea until it settled on the mysterious craft. In large letters across her stern ran the legend "*Turritella*, London. . . ."

Dimly we could discern two boats, one on the port and one on the starboard side of the hull crowded with occupants, who were jabbering in some strange tongue like a lot of excited monkeys.

Just as we came abreast of the strange ship we saw a cloud of smoke shoot up from her, which was followed by the heavy thud of an explosion. Next moment there came another heavy thud, and we saw that the *Turritella* was beginning to sink by the head. And then we saw a third boat rowing away from the wreck in the direction of the other two. We swung round to return and pick them up. . . .

As we approached the first two boats we realized why we had failed to understand the language. They were full of Chinese all talking once in a state of hysterical agitation. We waited eagerly for the third boat. As it drew up alongside our gangway two officers stepped briskly up the ladder, and were followed by 26 men, each wearing a round blue cap with two black ribbons falling down behind. Across the front of the cap ribbons was printed in gold letters "Kaiserliche Marine." We had not been fooled after all. . . .

Her second officer spoke English as fluently as his own language, and without any trace of an accent. He had spent eight years in our merchant service, and had the manners and bearing of an English officer. But the weak spot in the company was evidently the signalman. That signal, "Why did you not stop me when I was passing *Aden*?" was brilliant. It showed real genius. But the signalman completely ruined it by spelling *Aden* with a "V".

Half a lifetime

From Mr J. P. S. Daniell
Sir, Mr John Denton (May 5) should take comfort from the example of the late Sir Winston Churchill, who became Prime Minister at 65½.

This was an appointment he had not previously held, but he reached near enough to Perfection for our needs at a time. Yours faithfully, PAUL DANIELL, Saddlers, Iwerne Minster, Blandford, Dorset.

THE ARTS

Television

A few years ago a bland pop song by Buggles called "Video Killed the Radio Star" was hoisted into the charts on the back of a showy, state-of-the-art promo video. Like many media obituaries, the title and the memorably vacuous lyric "We can't rewind, we've gone too far" encapsulated a wish rather than a fact. Pop videos actually stimulate record sales, which in turn boost the appeal of pop radio: the new medium has not supplanted the old, but supplements it.

Any lethal tendencies video may have lie in another direction. As Julien Temple and others observed, in the course of the encyclopaedic television *Video Jukebox* (BBC1), successful examples of the form work by hammering home a definitive set of images which are designed to colonize the viewer's imagination, and in some ways to nullify it. When squeezed through the Magma of computer enhancement, the traditional film techniques of special effects and rapid cutting produce the nearest equivalent to the dream that any medium has achieved. And, whether or not video makes pop less interesting, it is here to stay.

Introduced by the veteran radio DJ John Peel and his producer John Walters, this programme's historically organized format was elastic enough to include some rare pre-video gems and some desperately trenchant interviews with boundary artists (many falling over themselves to be blasé) as well as obvious "classics" such as "Vienna" and "Bohemian Rhapsody". But however technically sophisticated and densely constructed, most pop videos are simply too boring to encourage a third or fourth viewing — although one suspects that last night's extravaganza may well have found its way into a few million VCRs.

It is to be hoped that the video boys never get their hands on Mr. Cutler, the sometime primary school teacher and lifelong eccentric profiled in *South of Waford* (LWT). On radio and record, free of the national health specs and tea cosy hat of his public persona, Mr. Cutler's deadpan minimalism spreads the day, bristling wings of phenomena. But now that he has found a new, young audience, even his might be at risk.

Martin Cropper

Tim Rice's new musical *Chess* opens next week in a blaze of publicity. Nicholas Shakespeare meets the man behind many stage successes

Knight of the matey fable

Everything is peppermint-green in Tim Rice's office off Shaftesbury Avenue. The piano, the radiator, the walls. When he puts on a green jersey, he suddenly becomes invisible. Only by seeking the source of a creamy, after-dinner voice does one locate the smiling face once likened to that of a relaxed Anthony Burgess — the face that could go down in history as responsible for the break-up of Abba.

Against one green wall lean posters for the Moleworth books now reprinted by Rice's company, Pavilion Books. "Are you an Eric or a Nigel?" asks one. "How to be top in all subjects" promises another. "How to be a goody-goody".

Rice admits that the sagas of Moleworth, the dishevelled but worldly urchin, had more influence on him than most books. "His philosophy is way ahead of Kant or Russell. 'Keep a straight bat in cricket as in life', he quotes, referring to his favourite pastime. On the opposite wall hang what he might like to regard as the fruits of this philosophy: gold and platinum discs of songs written by him and sung mostly by Elaine Paige, songs with titles like "Love Hurts".

Yet it is less Moleworth than his weedy enemy Fotherington Thomas whom one associates with the smiling face and the thinning fair hair, buffed up at the back in curls. "I was really quite unrepentant at Lancing — which in itself is quite original", he adds hopefully. A contemporary there of Christopher Hampton, David Hare and Nigel Andrews, Rice remembers with most affection a clarinetist who went to Belgium and was never heard of again.

Music is more important to Rice even than cricket, though he has three cricket books out this week. He also publishes — and writes — books like *British Hit Singles 3* and *Hits of the Sixties* which makes him a mine of arcane information. "Did you know that one of the guys who wrote 'Rock Around the Clock' was born in 1893? Extraordinary how the composer of that song should be a man of the 19th century." These books, full of similarly useless but succulent scraps, tend to be best-sellers, just like his songs.

It was in listening to his parents' records of shows he had never seen that Rice became interested in words

and music. "All my excitement at shows like *My Fair Lady* came off their records. I remember then seeing some of the shows and feeling how strange they were, not at all like I imagined. Even today I never feel a sense of theatre." This could explain why he has not seen Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Starlight Express*, nor his former partner's musical *Cats*. "At least not the whole thing from start to finish", he says, tapping his feet.

"There was a traffic snarl-up." The 10-year partnership, which had begun with an unperformed musical on Dr Barnardo, ended in 1976 with *Evita*. For a time Rice without Lloyd Webber was like Bill Haley without his kiss-curl. His medieval musical, *Blondel*, soon slipped from sight, leaving its author to disc-jockey for attention on television.

But now with his latest musical, *Chess*, which opens on Wednesday at the Prince Edward Theatre, Rice is riding high again. The album has already sold 1.5 million copies. As with *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*, its release, a long time in advance of the stage production, is regarded as a run out of town. (He could also persuade very good people, like Barbara Dixon, to sing minor parts.) "I'm very pleased", purrs Rice. "In record terms it's done better than *Evita*." It cannot have escaped his attention that one of the songs, "I Know Him So Well", reached number one on the very same day as "Don't Cry For Me" some years before.

Chess is the first Rice musical which does not involve a famous person, though the idea had its origins in the Fischer/Spassky and, more recently, the Karpov/Korchnoi tournaments. "Andrew and I nearly did something on the East-West relationship featuring the Cuban missile crisis. *Chess* is basically a simple love story showing how anyone who gets to the top of any profession finds politics intrude."

For his research Rice attended tournaments in England and America. "A lot of the time it's just two guys in a room over a board with an audience that's quiet and hushed. It's just like theatre." Fittingly for a man who does not much like theatre, he then admits he is not particularly



Silver and goldsmith: Tim Rice among his recording trophies

interested in the game. "I am fascinated by the people in it", he says, picking up a pair of sun-glasses.

Thinking what a good idea it seemed for "a play, a book or something", Rice wrote a four-page synopsis and began looking for a partner. Lloyd Webber? "He was probably doing *Cats* at the time", he replies, tapping his feet. Hearing that the two bearded members of the Swedish pop-group Abba wanted to write a musical, Rice went to Stockholm. They so loved the idea they disbanded the group for it.

The lead female in *Chess* will be Elaine Paige of the platinum discs, *Evita*, *Starlight Express* and *Abba Cadabra* (with Abba's very own Bjorn and Benny). Did Rice write the part with her in mind? "Yes, I did probably", he says, but he never took it for granted Bjorn and Benny would agree. "The same people crop up because they're good, and you only want to work with the best", he explains valiantly. One of these was the director, Michael Bennett, who quite unexpectedly withdrew on account of ill-health. Flying back to America, Bennett surfaced in the

press with garish accounts, not of his own health but that of the musical.

"I have been assured by our American producers that he is ill", says Rice patiently, his feet now in unison with his sun-glasses. "But I was really quite surprised when I read he didn't like the script and had problems with Elaine." Fortunately *Starlight Express* was delayed on Broadway, which meant the availability of Rice's original choice, Trevor Nunn.

Rice goes on about how good his Abba colleagues are. Can he conceive of them responding to another of his ideas? "They're very good", he answers, without irony. "If I have a wonderful idea I'll take it to Bjorn and Benny and if they think it's rubbish I might try it on Andrew, but I have no plans for another musical. I've been to write something solo, a book or a play. I've no idea if I can do it."

Currently on his short-list is a project called "Evita Two". "It's the story of what happens to *Evita*'s body, even though she's a corpse, and how Peron tries to make Isabelita into another *Evita* — someone who doesn't have any character at all."

Dance

Revival misses its guiding star

Le Baiser de la fée
Covent Garden

Kenneth MacMillan dedicated last night's gala at Covent Garden to the memory of Barry Kay, who designed one of the three works given and seven other ballets for MacMillan. Concurring in the sense of loss at his premature death, some of us mentally added a tribute to another artist whose memory hovered almost palpably over the programme.

Lynn Seymour was MacMillan's muse, the inspiration of all three ballets given, and to tread in her footsteps is not easy.

Lesley Collier had that ingrained task in *Concerto* and *Anastasia*. In the plotless ballet to Shostakovich music, her line and musicality enable her to create her own effect, less rounded, less resonant than Seymour's, but still vibrant and clear.

Would that I could say as much for an otherwise substantial cast in a work that, except in the cool, serene slow movement, needs all the help it can get from its dancers.

Playing Anna Anderson, the woman who thought herself Anastasia, is another matter. The present revival is of the original one act version created at the West Berlin Opera House in 1957, or as near as you can get to it on a stage with no revolve. It gains a lot from being short of the two-act prologue, both trivial and misleading, which MacMillan added for the 1971 Covent Garden production.

Collier acts the central role (none of the others amount to much, although David Drew lends effectively burlesque support as her husband) with serious care, clarity and emphasis. What she does not have, what nobody in the Royal Ballet has today, is Seymour's ability to make a role look larger than life, and without that I am not sure the ballet is worth reviving.

In the new production of *Le Baiser de la Fée*, you can glimpse something of Seymour's quality in the dances

for the fiancée, just as the gifts of another exceptional ballerina, Svetlana Beriosova, lie half hidden in the role of the fairy.

Although this is billed as a completely new version, MacMillan has sensibly built on his earlier attempt of the ballet, and most of the best parts look familiar.

I cannot understand why the earlier version was unsuccessful. It had only 24 performances between 1960 and 1965, yet it was blessed with superb performances and one of the most beautiful decors ever created for the Royal Ballet, a set of marvellous abstract landscapes by Kenneth Rowell.

The prosaic new settings by Martin Sutherland do not even begin to compare, although they do fit better with MacMillan's curious decision to change his conception from that of a pure classic ballet (so right for the music) by adding musical comedy scenes of knockabout village revelry, played with embarrassingly crude gusto by several of the older dancers.

Surprisingly, MacMillan has not taken the opportunity to remedy the earlier version's biggest weakness, that of having the gypsy and the fairy played by different dancers.

Among the new cast, for those who did not see Beriosova's icy majesty and Seymour's melting warmth, Fiona Chadwick and Maria Almeida present the roles ably and sincerely, although I could not rid myself of a thought that they could do better still if they swapped parts.

Jonathan Cope as the young man for whose love they struggle comes off best: handsome, romantic and dashing, strong in dancing, partnering and personality.

Ashley Lawrence conducts Stravinsky's most luscious ballet score with affectionate care and lavishes equal attention on Shostakovich's bright melodies and the impassioned *Fantaisie Symphonique* of Martin for the other ballets.

John Percival

Theatre

The baptismal night's dream

The Two Noble Kinsmen
Swan, Stratford on Avon

Since Stratford became imprisoned on the Bardic treadmill one has frequently felt like cursing the name of Shakespeare for monopolizing the company's classical repertoire to the exclusion of all his contemporaries.

This deadlock has now been resolved by the unknown benefactor who famously waved a wand over the scene and conjured up a dream house for everything except the latest recycling of *Twelfth Night*.

In its physical properties, too, Michael Reardon's theatre is the answer to a dream. You arrive through the entrance to the old RSC gallery, still exuberantly Victorian, and then pass into the auditorium where a Jacobean promontory stage combines with the building's original non-conformist chapel character. Stage and lofty surrounding galleries are of unpainted timber, of a once austere, sympathetic, and acoustically clear as a bell.

The last factor is crucial. In a 400-seat house there may be no temptation for casts to

parade about: but what kind of stylistic compromise can be made on a fore stage that comes within inches of the front stalls while looking like a landing-strip from the top gallery? In practice, this problem simply vanishes as speech can safely drop to the level of studio performance. All gallery spectators may miss its eye contact.

For a baptismal production opening the door on the Jacobean treasure house, *The Two Noble Kinsmen* is an eccentric choice. Listed in the Shakespeare Apocrypha and hopelessly ascribed to a long string of alternative pretend-ers, all you can safely say is that it was written by someone who, if not Shakespeare himself, had certainly done his Shakespearean homework.

The verse is as syntactically knotty as that of the last plays, and the piece offers a kaleidoscope of Bardic memories — so that Holofernes seems to be coming on with the Mechanicals, and Macbeth's doctor wandering into Ophelia's mad scene.

The plot is taken from Chaucer's tale of Palamon and Arcite, the devoted Theban cousins who turn to deadly rivals for love of Theseus's sister Emilia. In Chaucer's hands it is a heart-felt expression of chivalric romance. By the time our Jacobean author



The noble touch: Peter Guinness (front) and Robert Morgan

tackled it, something peculiar had happened to the notion of chivalry, and perfect gentle knights are no longer to be found.

Barry Kyle, in a stroke that simultaneously fits the play and the space, presents it as a modified piece of Kabuki: bringing on Theseus and Hippolyta as a pair of scarlet-costumed war lords, and playing the battle and duel scenes in Samurai armour.

The Japanese convention is treated flexibly, but it recurs at every level from the Bunraku manipulation of the actors to the morris dance where a giant phallus emits an avalanche of white silk.

Performances are in the same key. Peter Guinness's top-knotted Theseus asserts dual authority with the grimacing aggressiveness of a shogun, accompanied by an Amazonian consort (Anna Nygh) in the likeness of Turandot. The boldest decision, however, is to abandon

Irving Wardle

Radio

Real-life dramas behind the scenes

A few short and factual paragraphs tucked away on page 3 of this paper Friday, May 2, may not have made it clear that the major radio drama of the last couple of weeks has had little to do with plays.

With a suddenness, not to say brutality, apparently uncharacteristic of dear old Auntie, (though maybe a change of character is in the making), the Board of Governors summarily ejected not only Richard Francis from his post as Managing Director, Radio, but Charles McLelland from his chair as deputy.

Inquiries as to why this happened, why now and why so abruptly have been met with very guarded answers, though no doubt the fragments will gradually work their way to the surface from which a true history can be written. In the meantime, at least as far as Mr Francis is concerned, it appears to be common knowledge that he is the only representative of

radio on the Board of Management, had become a more and more isolated figure in a group of television colleagues all equally assured of a natural inferiority of radio.

In this unpromising environment my guess is that the Francis view of the expanding future of sound broadcasting, which had included a committed advocacy of Langham as a new broadcasting centre and technological wonder, increasingly failed to find sympathy.

Why should a successor fare any better? Well, that successor is to be Brian Wenham, presently Director of Programmes for BBC Television and therefore well aware of the attitudes he will have to cope with: indeed until now he has very likely shared some of them himself. But he is said to be an ambitious and able man who will be on his mettle to do well. But there is another reason to anticipate that radio will come out of its isolation: Mr Wenham will no longer be

its only senior spokesman, for David Hatch (currently Controller of Radio 4) has been appointed Director of Programmes. Radio — a job previously concealed somewhere in Mr McLelland's brief and for the first time that position brings with it a seat on the Board of Management.

Since it also brings with it Mr Hatch in person, my expectation is that between them one ex-TV mogul and the most resourceful, energetic, innovative and plain-spoken chief that Radio 4 has ever had will make it hard for even the most dedicated high priest of Wood

Lane to insist on the natural inferiority of sound.

But who will take over Radio 4? No one I have spoken to was willing to name a runner, let alone back one. The outgoing incumbent has given us a very hard act to follow, so one criterion for his successor is that he be able to follow it. Certainly if the governors can do as well with this appointment as I believe them to have done with that of John Tusa to External Services, we shall all be able to sleep easy by our bedside trannies.

David Wade

THE SUNDAY TIMES

ALL THAT'S BEST IN BRITISH JOURNALISM

MY LIFE WITH SAKHAROV



BY HIS WIFE



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SATURDAY

A weekly guide
to leisure, entertainment
and the arts

The master of stately miracles . . .

Britain's finest
houses are often
a financial
nightmare for
their owners.
William Greaves
meets a man who
eases the pain

Stately homes and large historic houses are not just star turns on Britain's rural stage, they also have leaking roofs, capricious out-breaks of dry rot, gardens that need manicuring into the middle distance and the sort of domestic bills which would send the average mortgagee running for the shelter of a council flat. However, when their owners need somewhere to run, the man they run to, like as not, is the urbane and immensely resourceful Mr Norman Hudson.

Spend a few hours in his company and the conversation seems to have encompassed half the pages of DeBrett. The main difference between 41-year-old Mr Hudson and any casual name-dropper, however, is that the names have just as much reason to be grateful to him as he has to them.

The visitor who crosses the moat of Broughton Castle, near Banbury in Oxfordshire, and tips his £1.70 entrance fee on to the counter might well believe that he is in the presence of one of Mr Arthur Daley's nice little earners. What he has actually stumbled upon is Lord and Lady Saye and Sele's perennial nightmare.

About four years ago they were forced to embark on a programme of restoration, estimated to cost £1 million over 20 years. Even allowing for a 40 per cent government subsidy from the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, it has already swallowed up more than £250,000.

From admission to the house and grounds, and guide book, shop and tearoom sales they achieve a turnover of between £20,000 and £25,000 a year and a profit over wages and overheads of only £2,000 to £3,000.

"And the estimate for new drawing room curtains is £10,000," said Lord Saye and Sele with a wry smile. If the sound of those figures could scarcely be described as music to the bank manager's ears, they struck a far more discordant note before Norman Hudson came on the scene about 11 years ago.

"We used to serve cups of tea out of the kitchen window



The saviour of an expensive heritage: Norman Hudson in the grounds of Broughton Castle and, right, with Broughton's grateful owner, Lord Saye and Sele



but, under Norman's guidance, we first put tables and chairs out in the garage and now have a proper tea room", said Lady Saye and Sele. The statistics of advance are firmly rooted in her husband's head.

"The tea room takes about 70p per visitor now and the shop takings average out at about 30p per head", he says. "And we sell 2,250 guide books a year at 60p each. They show a nice profit - Norman would rather we charged £1 for them but I like to feel we give good value."

"The Broughton Castle experience underlines Hudson's First Law. "No matter how great the profit from opening a house and gardens to the public", he says, "it can never offset the overall cost of running the place. All I can do is to advise on a whole range of things like grants, how best to reorganize tax commitments and how to maximise profits from open days and other activities."

Professionally trained as a land agent and occupationally

engaged as the confidante of landed gentry, it is scarcely surprising that the balding, easy-mannered Hudson seems as much at home in city suit as wellington boots.

And in size, if not age, his rambling farmhouse and out-buildings - almost a village within the village of Upper Wardington in Oxfordshire - are a suitable headquarters from which to operate as a financial agency aunt to historic house owners throughout Britain.

In Scotland, Hudson has worked his influence on Rosslyn Castle, near Edinburgh. Manderstone in Berwickshire and, also in Berwickshire, the magnificent Thirlestane Castle, which now houses the Border Country Life Museum.

"Every case is different", says Hudson. "Some houses have lakes and parklands which can be utilized. Some are well placed for tourists, while others - although too

far off the beaten track for tourism - are ideally suited to banquets and conferences. Some houses can absorb quite large numbers of visitors and others lose their essential identity as a family home if too many people are admitted."

When Lord Somerleyton first approached Hudson 12 years ago, 30,000 people a year visited his two-mile-long lake near Great Yarmouth. Now Fritton Lake is a private country park, including a wild fowl reserve, children's adventure playground, pony riding and boating centre which attracts 150,000 visitors a year.

The magnificent early 18th century Chicheley Hall near Milton Keynes, on the other hand, was less well located for day trippers and Hudson's advice to Mr and Mrs John Nutting was to use it for functions, business conferences and gourmet dinners. Similarly Lord Bradford has turned his experience as a London restaurateur to good effect and is now in the

process of converting Weston Park in Shropshire to include 19 bedrooms to accommodate 32 resident guests - with clay pigeon shooting a speciality of the house.

Not every aristocratic patient leaves Hudson's surgery with a cure. "I was recently asked to look at one house and it upset me terribly to have to tell the owners that I could see no way out of their problem", he said. "There is no point raising hopes if you know that, whatever they do, it will be more trouble than it is worth."

Around 1950 there was an 18-month period in Britain when one major house was being torn down every four days. In many cases the elder son had been killed and, in others, the houses had been damaged beyond repair by wartime occupation. It was against this grim backdrop that the Duke of Bedford and the Marquis of Bath, at Woburn and Longleat respectively, embarked on a new age of stately home showmanship. And by 1953, the Govern-

ment, recognizing the plight of the nation's heritage, set up the Historic Buildings Council to make repair grants available. There was, however, a *quid pro quo*. If the Government was to pay part of the repair costs then the house and gardens must be opened to the public. Bedford and Bath were no longer out on their own.

The next bad news came in the early 1970s. The bullish tourist market was hit by the oil crisis and, to cap it all, the Government was talking of introducing a wealth tax. The Historic Houses Association, a sort of trade union of aristocrats, came into being and such was public sympathy that it gathered a million and a half signatures against the proposed tax - the biggest petition ever presented to Parliament. At that time the young Norman Hudson was running Savills' recreational land management department and, nine years ago, he became a technical adviser to the HHA and set up on his own as

a heritage property consultant. He has since been called in to rescue the finances of more than 100 great British houses - at least 35 times wearing his private company hat.

"Although allowing public access is part of the owner's deal when he gets a repair grant, I've never heard anyone complain about having to do so", says Hudson. "But opening for the first time can be traumatic. Where do the cars go? Where do you put the ticket office? Do you have guided tours? What about a shop, and what do you sell in it? A guide book or not? House security? Even the threat of your children being kidnapped can be a big worry."

"In the early days there was a tendency for people to think of historic house owners in a 'them and us' way. Nowadays, I think everyone appreciates what a headache they have and are grateful for their efforts to maintain their property as a private home, rather than let it become a public institution."

"The stately homes of England", sang Noel Coward, "though rather in the lurch, provide a lot of chances for physical research..." He would no doubt be delighted to know that many of them are no longer haunted by the prospect of encroaching doom. Norman Hudson, entrepreneur extraordinary, has seen to that.

SATURDAY

American actor
Tom Hulce on his
return to more
than a normal
part, page 14

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... and a stately masterwork



House proud: Hal and Susan Bagot at Levens Hall - making them pay where it counts

Levens Hall, near Kendal in the Lake District, has graced countless calendars over the years. Its topiary garden, carved rather than grown by landscape gardener Guillaume Beaumont almost 300 years ago, is a magical tapestry of shapes and shadows. That, and the grandeur of the house itself, is more than enough to attract 37,000 visitors a year.

That statistic has not changed significantly since the summer of 1982. What has changed is that each person who then spent an average of £1.60 on his visit now gladly parts with £3.20. The summer of 1982 was, needless to say, the time Mr Hal Bagot and his wife Susan sought the help of Norman Hudson. And today, it is one of Mr Hudson's smaller adjustments which

obviously affords the present occupiers the greatest amusement.

"We used to have the ticket office at the entrance to the car parking area", recalls Mr Bagot, "and if anyone didn't like what we charged they would turn round and drive off again. Now you park first and walk to where you pay. By the time granny has been disembarked and one of the children probably wants the lavatory, it is too late for second thoughts."

Other transformations are less esoteric. Once cramped and uninviting, the tea room is now a slick serve-yourself dispensary of ploughman's lunches and freshly-made salads for which people willingly pay out £1.80 and £2.20 respectively.

signs ensure that no one misses the plant sale area - but only after they have admired, in the gardens, the speciality blooms on sale. And for the children there is now an adventure play area, rides on Big Bertha - an 18-ton, showman's traction engine which is part of a spectacular steam collection - and Beatrix Potter books and models in the shop.

"Another thing Mr Hudson taught us was to keep precise records of everything that people pay at various stages of their tour on a week by week basis so we can make comparisons with other years", said Mr Bagot, who moved into the house with his wife, Susie, in 1975 and whose immediate family have owned it for more than 100 years.

Six years ago the Bagots - he is a chartered surveyor in Kendal - were confronted with a £75,000 re-roofing programme which has since grown to £90,000 with the discovery of widespread dry rot. Receipts from visitors - about £90,000 including VAT last year - make no contribution to house repairs and have to be offset against staff wages of £41,000 and an annual heating and lighting bill of £7,500.

Not much return for being open to the public from 11am to 5pm every day except Friday and Saturday from Easter Sunday until the end of September. But a great deal healthier than the days before Norman Hudson came to the help of yet another beleaguered stately home owner.

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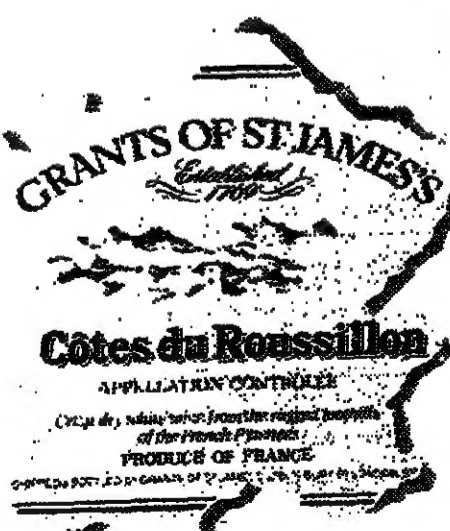
VIEWING TIMES

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| Thursday 8th May | 12 noon-8.00 pm |
| Friday 9th May | 9.00 am-7.00 pm |
| Sunday 11th May | 10.00 am-4.00 pm |
| Monday 12th May | 9.00 am-2.00 pm |

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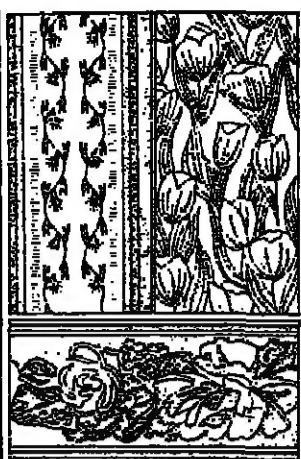
SHOPPING

It's time the chain stores sold furniture the way they sell fashion, says Beryl Downing

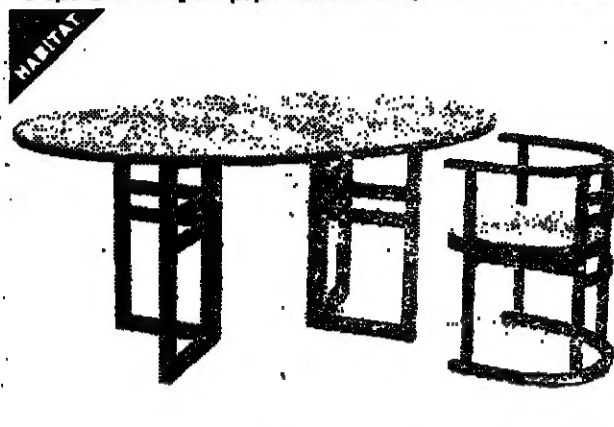
Breaking a high street habit



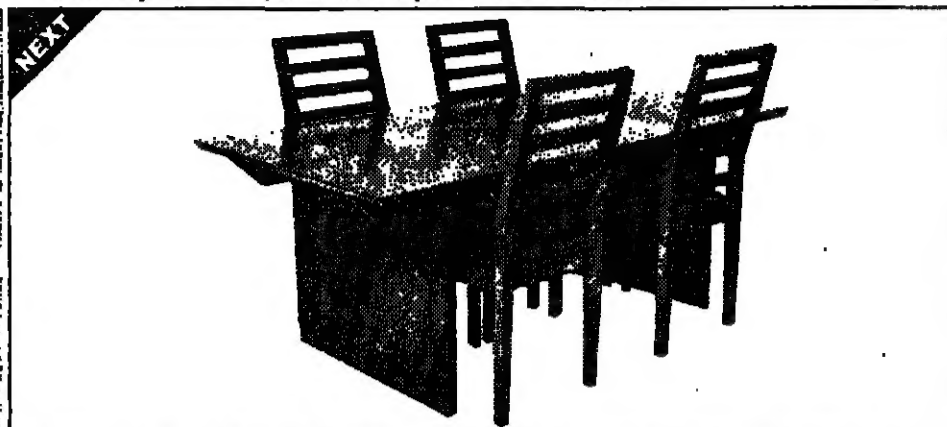
Left: chintzy chair in peach and sage on cream, £298. Sketched right: floral border on more cotton curtains, beige or green, from £25. Tulip printed curtains from £19.99 both Marks & Spencer. Peony wallpaper border £2.99 per roll available in two weeks from Next Interior.



Left: long and lean white painted metal uplighter, £35. Centre: mahogany bookshelves £59.50, also in pine at £59.50. Right: hand-painted vase designed by Janice Tchelenko, large black and yellow £24.99, small blue and pink £26.99, in editions of 1,000. Available end May.



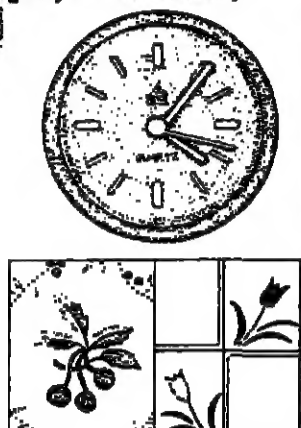
Left: Thirties style table £249, chair £79, from the Strasse range in black lacquered ash. Sketched right: satin-weave cotton, Albert, £7.95 per metre with matching wallpaper £5.95 per roll. Oak Leaves cotton £8.45 per metre. All in dark green and burgundy from Laura Ashley.



Above: elegantly simple dining table in dark grey ash with extending centre panel £250. Ladder back chairs upholstered in tweed £75 each, in leather £85. There are three occasional tables to match - small side table £49.99, coffee table £59.99 and console £59.99.



Left: glass-fronted pine cupboard £29.50; open shelf units £55 each at the sides. Sketched right: Habitat clock in green, yellow, red, grey or white, £8.95. Black and white cherry wallpaper £4.95 per roll, Laura Ashley. Tulip tile wallcovering £7.99 per roll, Marks & Spencer.



Above: space-saving wall-mounted drop-leaf table in golden pine £45. Matching high stools are £25 each. Also in the St Michael golden pine kitchen range are three tables - gateleg £39, rectangular or round £35 each - chairs at £45 each and wall units with solid doors at £59.50.

It is about time the chain-store gang got its act together and began to sell furniture as efficiently as it sells fashion. Until this week not one of the chains had made any serious attempt to challenge Habitat's hold on the High Street, but now Marks & Spencer have had an idea that might change the way we buy our furnishings.

On Thursday, opposite their main Marble Arch flagship, M & S opened their first separate store devoted entirely to furniture and furnishings. Next week they will go a step further in Croydon - a single subject satellite store laid out like a bungalow. Each department will be set out in a room of its own, so that customers will move from kitchen to dining, living, bed and bath-rooms, selecting their co-ordinated furnishings as they go. M & S have tried a satellite store before - the specialist children's shop in York - but they are not too sure that separating a section of clothing from the main store is a good idea. Furniture, they feel, is quite a

different matter, and their approach is has certainly been original.

Because they had difficulty in finding a British furniture manufacturer "with the attitude we wanted", M & S put the project in the hands of one of their major footwear suppliers, Peter Black, who at their instigation bought Jentique of Norfolk: a well-known, but dying company.

The need for imagination

With the guidance of the M & S buyers a range of wood furniture was developed which includes dining and occasional tables, shelves and bedroom furniture. There were fewer problems with the upholstered furniture, which is being made by Christie Tyler, already well known in the field.

"We were not exactly swept off our feet by the response from the furniture trade", says Don

Trangmar, homeware director of M & S. "Homeware is clearly very underdeveloped, but when you look at the furniture industry most retailers and manufacturers do nothing for their customers' imaginations."

"We see this as an opportunity to offer goods of the quality people expect from us, presented in a stimulating way. If it is successful we will take the concept even further."

It needs to be taken further. At the moment, the furniture range is small, and as traditional as you would expect from a company known for reliability rather than avant-garde design.

It is particularly suitable for those who like a country look - pine for the kitchen, bathroom and bedroom: chintz and mahogany for the living room. It is a rather "me too" collection, but made mainly in solid woods rather than veneer and therefore representing good value.

doubtedly Next has the most stylish designs - their ash dining-table and chairs and console table are particularly elegant in dark-grey ash. But this hardly represents a furniture collection. Next's Tricia Guild fabrics are in a charming range of colours and their Janice Tchelenko ceramics are the collector's pieces of the mass market.

Great variety of pattern

British Home Stores are quietly relying on its reputation for lighting - their clocks and towels are good, too - until the effect of the Conran take-over is felt. Habitat itself has some interesting new Thirties styles to add to the mixture as before.

For the greatest variety of pattern in furnishing fabrics and accessories Laura Ashley is the best High Street bet. The ranges are by no means all sprigged and flouncy; there are

richly coloured paisleys, textured tapestry effects, glowing dark satins as well as fresh country chintzes. But you have to look at the catalogue to get the full picture - you would never guess the possible permutations from looking at the store displays.

So the M & S "bungalow" approach is an imaginative improvement on the present state of mass-market furnishings. Perhaps the step further they speak of will one day give us what we really need - a layout that really does look like a show house.

But that will remain a pipedream while British retailers are obsessed by sales per square foot. It is not unknown for customers to buy an entire room set from a specialist furnishing shop when they can actually relate it to their own home, so cluttering the place with sales fixtures does not always pay off. Hasn't one of the big retailers the courage to see if showing less would mean selling more?

DRINK

Right label, wrong wine

Look along the white wine shelves of any English wine shop and you will find the word Riesling on a multitude of bottles. Many of the white wine labels sans Riesling will have, in any case, been styled on this appealingly grapey-flowerly variety. Liebfraumilch, Britain's biggest selling white wine, is the indubitable example. Some Liebfraumilch brands could well still have a smidgen of Riesling in the blend. In practice most are likely to be Müller-Thurgau or Silvaner based.

Unfortunately many of those bottles, even labelled Riesling, contain wines that have been made from the bogus Riesling, better and more politely known as the Italian Riesling or false Riesling. What these Rieslings offer is mostly just a bland, sweet, vaguely grapey glassful. And if you expect your bargain bottle to be reminiscent of the true Riesling grape, as found in the Mosel or Saar say, with its pale greeny-white colour, apple-flowerly scent and vital, racy, steely character you will, alas, be sorely disappointed.

Telling one from 'other is for once in the wine world, easy. The false Riesling's most familiar guise, in this country, is that of Yugoslavia's Laski Riesling. Hungary's Olaszriesling is another widely distributed false Riesling. Austria has its Welschriesling, Rumania its Laski Riesling, and Italy sells bogus Riesling under the Italic Riesling and Welschriesling labels. Bulgaria it seems is the only joker in the pack for although this country sells Welschriesling, many of its wines sold simply as Riesling, have a hefty dollop of Welschriesling mixed into the blend too.

Germany is the chief home of the true Riesling, often known as Rhine Riesling. Apart from the stately, green elegance of a magnificent Mosel, a Riesling from a fine Rhine state will have a fine straw-gold colour and a glorious rich, peachy character. With age both will turn into a luscious honeyed, multi-layered, lime-juice like mouthful.

Finding these Teutonic taste-trips, outside the most celebrated estates, is getting increasingly more difficult as German growers turn away from their labour-intensive, steep, suntrap, pocket handkerchief slopes in favour of the lesser quality low-lying vineyards.

Still if great German Rieslings are becoming more elusive, fine New World Rieslings are definitely on the increase. South Africa still has some way to go with its Weissler Riesling but in California late harvest genuine Riesling is known as Johannisberg Riesling or sometimes as White Riesling. It has produced some wonderful wines. Australia, despite its hot climate, is beginning to make both some fine, floral, aperitif style Rieslings, albeit with that tell-tale Muscat character that ripe Riesling devel-

ops, plus some fine late harvest Rieslings too.

Perhaps the purest form of Rhine Riesling are the wines produced in Alsace. Most of these flowery elegant Rieslings are bone dry like other Alsace wines. Finer still are the late-harvest style Rieslings, whose grapes have been attacked with noble rot, and have been turned into rich, complex wines. The Hugel family make some especially good examples of this style. Their 79 Riesling Réserve Personnelle with its rich, positive, flowery flavour has a touch of that petrol-like nose that great German Rieslings develop. Sainsbury's stock this wine for £5.95. Not cheap, I know, but considering the quality of the wine a bargain nonetheless.

Sainsbury's also stock a wide range of German nobility-rotted wines in those late harvest, ascending-sweet styles of Spätlese, Auslese and Beerenauslese. The quality of these Sainsbury's sweet wines does vary but the 1983 Serriger Vogelstein Riesling Auslese from the Verwallung der Staatlichen Weinbaudomanen at Trier is a textbook example of a great Saar wine. Its fresh, green,



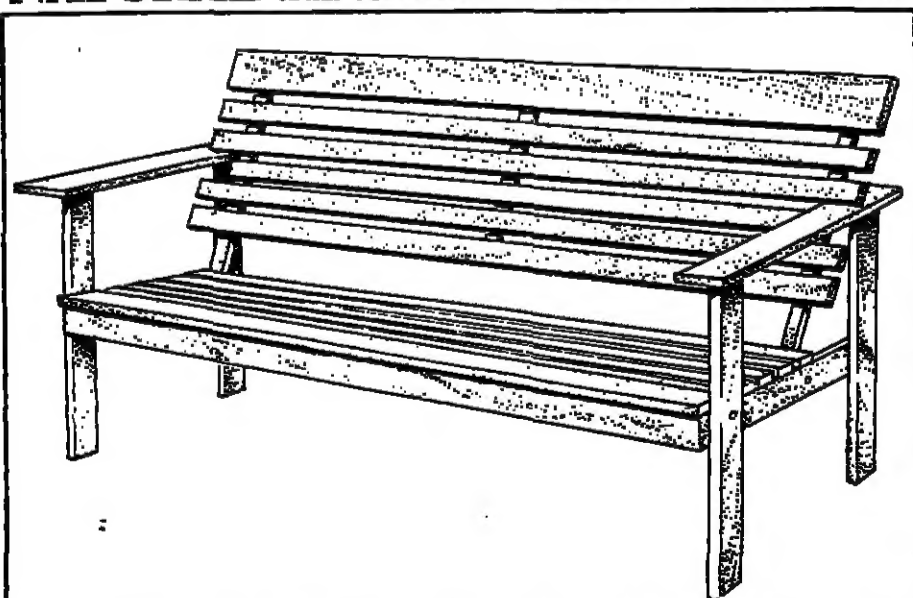
flowery-apple nose is backed up by a lovely fresh green luscious taste complete with that steely backbone so typical of the Saar. (Sainsbury's £5.75)

An excellent German Riesling this time from the Rhine is Deinhart's delicious '82 Winkler Hasensprung Riesling Kabinett. Unlike the Réserve Personnelle and the Auslese, which are really pudding tipples, this wine makes a useful spring aperitif and first course wine. With its flowery, waxy bouquet and similarly full-flavoured palate it is excellent value for money priced at just £3.99 from Waitrose.

Finally if you like the thought of finishing off a meal with a sweet wine but are worried about opening (and finishing) a whole bottle, then the half bottle of a luscious dessert wine is the cheaper and more suitable answer. Few firms, alas, stock this post-prandial convenience. Les Amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern Street, London W1, and The Wine Studio, 9 Eccleston Street, London SW1, however, carry the powerful, rich, peachy honeyed '82 Firestone Selected Late Harvest Riesling. Expensive at £10.75 a half bottle but worth it.

Jane MacQuitty

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The appeal of real wooden furniture puts it in a class of its own especially when combined with stylish design.

This garden bench displays both qualities. To perfection being made from Iroko hardwood which is extremely hardwearing through all types of weather. The wood needs little attention but may be treated with teak oil as required. The slats on the seat and back are angled to provide comfort and the overall design of the bench makes it an elegant item of furniture for any garden, patio or conservatory. The bench is supplied with easy home assembly instructions and measures four feet in length.

With this Iroko hardwood bench you can be assured that through summer and winter it will retain its attractive appearance with the minimum of maintenance.

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IN THE GARDEN

Gardening should be a pleasure and the more one can take the hard, repetitive work out of every-day maintenance the more pleasant it becomes.

Although grass is the easiest form of gardening, it is a repetitive job but one where machinery can be used to full advantage.

There are two ways of cutting grass - by a cylinder rotary machine. Both work well but each has a place and time for its use. You should buy the best machine you can afford for the task. For a lawn less than 100 square yards, for example, an electric 12 or 15-inch machine would be sufficient. The other factor to consider is if you want to catch the clippings or allow them to fly. You may want a different machine according to your needs.

Here are some examples of

● Black and Decker have the R4 (£65), a 12-inch rotary again with no box.

● Flymo's 10-inch Sprinter E25 (around £50) is a rotary with no box.

● Bigger gardens call for bigger machines and the electric RE35X (about £85) from Qualcast is another cylinder machine with a grass box and a 14-inch cutting width. Its long lead makes it suitable for

quite big gardens. Available as an attachment is a lawn rake kit, costing £20.

● Flymo's Sprintmaster XE38 rotary has a grass box and its 15-inch cut picks up most of the mowings, leaving stripes.

● The RM40 rotary from Black and Decker (around £138) is fitted with a grass box and has a 16-inch cut.

● Where there is a large grass area and where electric machines are difficult to operate, the best machine is the Suffolk Punch. It comes in three sizes with cutting edges ranging from 12 to 16 inches and range in price from £180 to £220.

The solid, well-constructed machines should have a life of at least 15 years under regular use.

● For big gardens there is the Flymo Lawn-chief range. The

R140 is a 16-inch machine with grass collection and a good engine which enables the blades to rotate quickly, cutting the grass finely.

● Cutting areas through which bulbs have grown needs a powerful rotary machine. The Flymo Pilot Range is more than adequate. The 47CM will stand up to the roughest use and will reduce 18 to 24-inch grass to 3 or 4 inches quickly, allowing a lighter machine to finish off the job.

● A machine which can cut long grass and leave a lawn in good condition is the Vortex (around £350). Well constructed with its own power unit it has a large capacity grass box and easy height adjustment for the blades. It is expensive compared with some of the machines mentioned previously but where there is a large garden with a variety of tasks this may be the machine you require.

● Scarifying good quality

lawn areas is a task which is often neglected and apart from Qualcast RE 35X attachment mentioned earlier, there are the Black and Decker Lawnrakers. The LR400, LR1500 and LR2000 range from £71 to £130, the largest with a 20-inch width.

● In gardens where it is difficult to fit in a compost heap, or in areas where burning garden refuse is impossible, the task of disposing garden refuse calls for a great deal of time. Garden shredders seem to be one of the best answers where the garden rubbish can be reduced to a product which is easily bagged. Some have their own power unit while others are operated by electricity. The Alko Compost Star 1100 (£100) can be recommended as can the Black and Decker D38 Shredder (£129). They will take prunings up to one-inch thick and leave it suitable for the compost heap.

ASHLEY STEPHENSON

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I have a big garden and would like to plant one or two large trees, an oak, a lime or an ash for shade. Do I need to prepare well?

Trees which take up to 200 years to mature should be given the best possible start. Prepare a site three feet square and three feet deep, remove the topsoil and put it to one side. Remove the next layer of soil and put it to one side, but separate from the top soil. The next layer should be dug over and when broken up you should add at least six inches of good quality farmyard manure and fork it in. Replace the next layer and add bonemeal at four ounces per square yard and fork in. Replace topsoil.

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TRAVEL

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

A poor country of rich legacies

You cannot help feeling rather sorry for Mexico. There she is, innocently trying to project the best possible image of herself, as would any country in the run-up to the World Cup, only to see her efforts thwarted by the twin blights of debt and earthquake.

Seven months after the tragedy which tore the heart out of the capital, many of the felled skyscrapers still lie slumped on their foundations, while others stand gaunt and empty along the broad avenues, giants dead on their feet.

It is hardly the stuff of which foreign allure is made, but there are two important factors to be borne in mind. Firstly, there is far more to the country than its main and massive metropolis, and secondly, Mexico City was never much to write home about even before the earthquake.

I revisited Mexico two months ago, having been there 10 days prior to the catastrophe. By the time it struck I was far away in Athens, reading the news in an English language paper. The stark headline, "Mexico destroyed", presumably reproduced all over the world, carried the simple connotation which has made the situation so falsely perceived. For the word Mexico is frequently used as shorthand for the capital, but to those not in the know, such headlines meant an entire country had become a write-off.

Three hundred miles away in the new coastal resort of Xupa, next to the fishing village of Zihuatanejo, bookshelves are drastically down to a single light-tanor. No one was killed.

Mexico City's troubles have been marching inexorably towards their present state for years. With 20 million inhabitants, it is the biggest city in the world. Every day 1,000 more arrive from the countryside in the usually vain hope of finding work.

Amid towering mountains, Spanish architecture and clattering music, Alan Franks finds there is more to Mexico than its over-populated, polluted capital city and a land preparing for a football showdown

Such is the pollution that at night the day's fumes regroup in the atmosphere above the city and lower themselves in the cooling air to permeate the dawn and give the illusion of a mellow English autumn.

Mexico City is best treated as a place through which to pass en route to a suitably far destination, of which there is no shortage. The last time I was here I made the two standard journeys, southwards across the Sierra Madre to Acapulco, and eastwards to the fantastic Mayan rubble of the Yucatan peninsula.

This time it seemed appropriate to go north on what they call the revolution route, via Querétaro to San Miguel de Allende to Guanajuato. Querétaro had the added attraction of being the home of Scotland's group in the World Cup — a group which has been dubbed, unfortunately perhaps, *el grupo del muerte* (the group of death), which means nothing more, sinister than that its outcome will be crucial to the tournament.

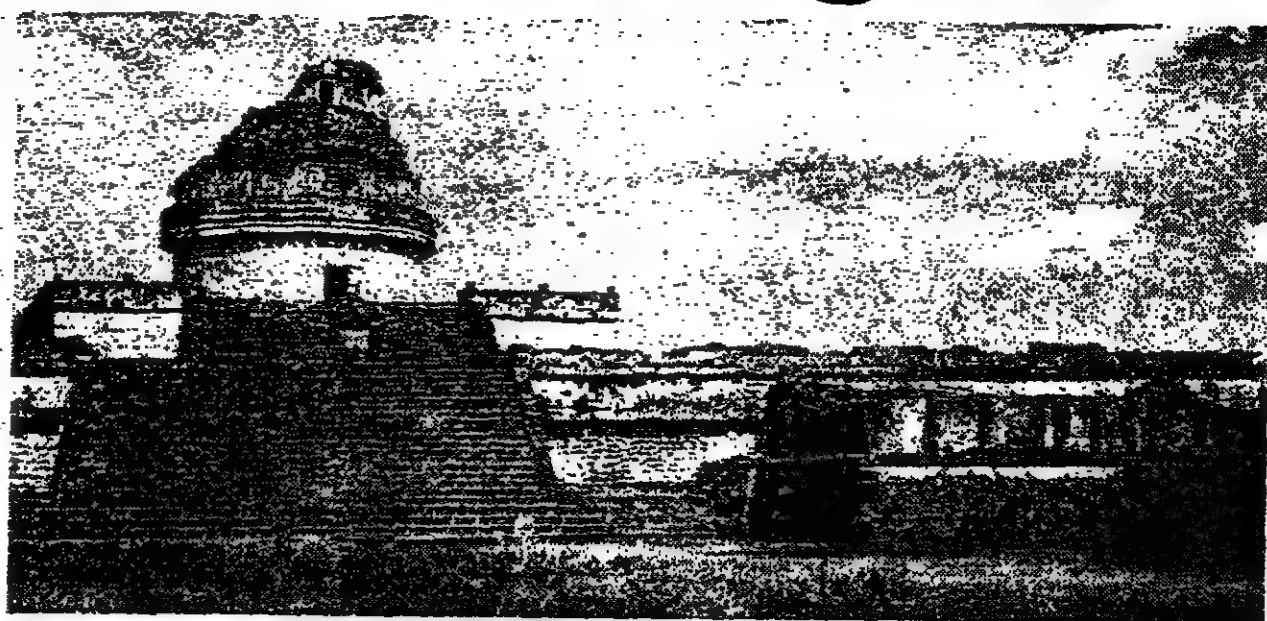
These towns all have cores of splendid colonial architecture, and squares lined with squat Indian Laurel trees which seem to moisten the air of a summer's evening.

With a modicum of luck you will catch a *marachi* band in full flight, Mexico is a country rich in cultural accretions, in its art no less than in its buildings, and through this peculiar hybrid of noises you can hear the voices of successive incomers — from the trumets of the Spanish to the mel-

odies of the French. At first hearing, the bands — even the good ones — can sound like a group of men who have suddenly taken it into their heads to beat up a kitchen. Besides which, it seems to be a semi-tone out, and just the fraction of a bar away from the time. Still, it contains Noel Coward's pre-requisite for popular music — potency — and I for one could gladly listen to the stuff all evening.

Guanajuato is the jewel in this little crown of towns. The railway has given all it's got in the way of burrowing and blasting to reach it from the south, but at this point it gives up in the face of a new range of barrier hills.

For reasons best known to Mexico, no foreigner seems to have heard of Guanajuato, which is extraordinary. It is a totally implausible town, part man and part mountain, not just growing out of the rock, but also delving deeply into it so as to system of roads along the course of the subterranean river beds. This fools the driv-



Reaching for the sky: the ruins of the Mayan observatory at Chichén Itzá on the Yucatan peninsula

er into thinking himself far below the surface of the earth, only to emerge into the daylight above a dizzying vista of hills. I cannot think of a proper European comparison. Ronda in Southern Spain and Rocamadour in the Dordogne come to mind, but even they lack the absurdly prolix system of lanes and levels.

It was here that I had my first, *sequila* of the journey, complete with the full ritual that Mexican custom demands — a sprinkling of salt on the back of the hand, licked

off with a stroke of the tongue, the clear fluid in the glass downed in one, followed by a bite into a segment of lemon. The procedure smacks of a terrible machismo, more conducive to suffering than to hedonism, but that is the way they do things. It tasted horrible, and I had another.

In the evening on my way to the theatre I ran into the town's sole Irishman, a Dublin expatriate called James Patrick O'Shaughnessy Doyle. He fell in love with a Guanajuato girl and her town — in that order I believe — and settled here several years ago, teaching English at the university from text books devised in Switzerland. He struck me as a rather joyous figure — wry, mournful, and at once both bridling and contented with the perspective of his exile.

The Juárez Theatre is as unexpected as the Opera House in Manaus, an extravagance of Victorian fussiness, with seats rearing almost sheer tiers to the Gods.

My original plan had been

to go from here to Chihuahua in the north west, and then ride the famous Copper Canyon railway for two days to its terminus at Los Mochis in the Gulf of California. But there was snow on the line and the trains were off. So it was with the English summer in mind that I flew to Monterrey, where our boys will be doing battle in the early stages of the Cup. I am not referring to the fans, although God knows their reputation has come in advance of them to Mexico.

Outwardly at least, the police chiefs are making conciliatory noises about the consequences of bad behaviour, and refusing all those fearful rumours about the quality of life in the nick.

Like so many other Latin American towns, Monterrey suffers from the image of a popular song, and in this case quite erroneously, since that Monterrey has only one r, and is situated in California. This Monterrey is a considerable town of one and a half million

inhabitants, cupped in a broad basin of the Sierra Madre Oriental, with its serrated peaks looking down on the valley.

This in many ways is the acceptable face of Mexico, the one you seldom come to read about. Here is a city that works: unemployment is low, the people go to bed early, corruption is on the run, the lavatory doors lock and the flushes flush, and the whole place is driven along by a sense of regional pride bordering on the secessionist.

There are three ways back down to Mexico City — the plane, the road, and the train, the last of which looks like a dirty but romantic legacy of Woody Guthrie's America, clanking out of town on its two-day haul, while the mountain walls return baleful echoes to the horn.

It sounds like the blues for a country bound hand and foot to its own internal past, at the very moment of planning a future of international acceptability.

TRAVEL NOTES

Many airlines fly to Mexico (see Fare Deals below). Cars with foreign number plates can travel freely if they carry the entry permit issued by customs on arrival. One advantage of road travel is the Angeles Vardes (Green Angels) service, the first organization of its kind to offer free breakdown assistance along the main

highways. Continental Airlines has introduced a series of packages at between £500-700 for a week at various destinations including Mexico City, Acapulco, and the Yucatan Peninsula. Details of travel offers from the Mexican Tourist Office at 7 Cork Street, London W1 (01-734 1056).

Breton retreat that makes light work of painting

As a hard luck story the tale of the Pont-Aven School of Painting in Brittany takes some beating. After one would guess, years of dreaming and planning, the vision finally became reality on May 1, 1939. Six months later the school was dead, one of the early victims of the Second World War.

"Ever since painters first discovered Brittany a century ago, Pont-Aven has been a favoured centre," said the founders in the introductory brochure. "Our intention is to provide a school combining the advantages of a sketching class abroad and those of a city school."

The scheme, which had the

Pont-Aven attracts lots of artists, but its tranquil atmosphere has other benefits

backing of such eminent names as Augustus John and Walter Richard Sickert, was so attractive that the wonder is that it has never been resurrected. For anyone with an urge to paint Pont-Aven is the ideal home.

It was Gauguin who put the place on the artistic map and it is not hard to see why scores of artists from all over the world were inspired to make their way there in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

"It is the light", I was told by Catherine Fugot, curator of the Musée de Pont-Aven. And certainly on a sunny September morning the light was heavenly. So, too, were the colours and indeed the whole ambience. Even those whose skill with a brush is limited to painting by numbers could not fail to be impressed; for the true artist the spot must be well nigh irresistible.

We spent as long admiring the paintings in the museum as the distance of small children would allow. Then, with the threat of juvenile vandalism looming, we moved on, making our way through the delightful Bois d'Amour up to La chapelle de Trémal, where hangs the 16th-century wooden crucifix which inspired Gauguin's "Yellow Christ".

Set in a shady spot on the top of a hill, the chapel is said to be typical of the type found all over rural Brittany. Outside the birds twittered in the branches; inside, the light played gently on the rough stone pillars — soft blues and yellows and oranges on simple grey stone.

Two leathery old locals eyed us suspiciously as we emerged into the sunlight. They had clearly seen our sort before and had not liked what they had seen. The Bretons have something of a reputation for disliking foreigners — which

apparently includes anyone from beyond the boundaries of Brittany. Their behaviour, however, belies their image. There was the garage mechanic, for example, who turned out to repair our car. "The Bretons are very interesting," he said. "We have many qualities but we are not good at dealing with outsiders."

Whereupon he proceeded to chatter away as if to a lifelong soulmate. He also had the grace not to pass comment on the fact that the only thing wrong with the wretched car was one faulty sparking plug. He couldn't, in short, have been friendlier or more tactful.

Nor could Mme Dieulang-



Gauguin's thousands follow his lead

mass of rocks to clamber on. We ate the blackberries and swam in the sea. We drank Breton cider and dreamed impossible dreams. That was all. But it was enough.

Habitues of the region told us to explore Concarneau, a mere seven miles away, and so we did — briefly. The ancient fortifications are striking; it is true, but beyond the intriguing if somewhat incongruous sound of a bagpiper playing a Highland lament on the waterfront, we found little to keep us there.

The guide books waxed equally lyrical about places like Quimper, Brest, and Fouguesant; all were within easy driving distance, but they might as well have been at the North Pole. In competition with Gauguin, blackberries and a dog called Agatha, they didn't stand a chance.

John Carey

TRAVEL NOTES

John Carey went to Brittany with Meon Villa Holidays, Meon House, Farnborough, Hants (0730 68411). This year a week in the same cottage at Pendre costs from £179 to £229. This year marks the centenary of Gauguin's arrival at Pont-Aven and the museum is celebrating with a special exhibition this summer.

Finding the right routes to Mexico's branches

It is several years since Britons last enjoyed direct flights to Mexico. British Airways suspended its Mexico City service in 1983 and Mexican flag carrier Aeromexico has never flown here. So the current best routings are either via the USA or European points such as Paris, Madrid or Amsterdam.

Official fares to Mexico City through Europe/USA start at £599 for a low season excursion (valid for travel until June 14) rising to £659 for peak season travel (June 15 until October 14). If you want a stopover the fares rise to £766 low, £847 peak season.

Some airlines, like British Caledonian and US carriers Continental and American, offer lower Apex fares if you travel via the USA. Book at least 21 days ahead. Low season Apex is £576 return, peak £599.

From next month Dallas-based American Airlines will be operating the most convenient through flights. Departing from Gatwick at 10.35am you can reach Mexico City by 5.20pm (local time) the same day following a speedy 90-minute connection at Dallas.

But not everyone is heading for Mexico City, the only destination that is served direct from Europe. If bound for other cities like Acapulco or Monterrey, it can be more convenient to fly via the USA. In such cases you would head for a major gateway such as Miami/Houston/Dallas and transfer there to Mexico destinations like Acapulco/Cancun/Cozumel/Guadalupe/Manzanillo. The main US carriers serving Mexico from these points are American/Continental/Pan Am plus the two Mexican airlines, Aeromexico and Mexicana.

FARE DEALS

The current crop of US promotional fares means it is more economical to travel that way provided you buy two separate tickets. For example, B. Cal is currently offering a £398 return "Latesaver" fare (book close to departure, depart before the end of May and return by the end of June) from London to Houston/Dallas. Combine this fare with a separate Continental Airlines excursion between Houston and Mexico City or Acapulco costing \$195 (£130) and this will give you a total fare of £328... up to £60 less than the Apex fare.

Flying via the USA also

allows "open jaw" (fly to one destination and return from another) convenience.

Mexican airlines do not offer domestic Airpasses such as those for America. But as domestic flights are subsidised they are relatively cheap. For example, the 190-mile Mexico City/Acapulco hop cost some \$26 (£17) or you would pay around \$43 (£28) for the 443-mile Mexico City/Monterrey flight. Privately-owned Mexicana Airlines has a UK office.

Alex McWhirter

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Classical records

REVIEW



A clearer ring for classic Wagner

Wagner: Tristan und Isolde. Suthaus, Flagstad. Philharmonia/Furtwängler. HMV EX 290684-3 (four LPs, also on CD and cassette). Wagner: Der Ring des Nibelungen. Solists: B. Suthaus, S. Flagstad. HMV EX 290670-3 (14 LPs). Mozart: Don Giovanni. Solists: Vienna PO/Furtwängler. HMV EX 290667-3 (three LPs, also on cassette).

There is something presumptuous about recommending recordings that have the classic status of Furtwängler's Wagner: his *Tristan* has held its place as a landmark of the gramophone since 1953, and his *Ring* cycle of the same period immediately established its authority when it was at last published in 1972.

After rehearsing them in newly clarified "digital remasterings", one can only advise anyone with the spare cash to do the same. The *Tristan* lives up to its reputation for cogent and deeply important symphonic drama;

the *Ring* interpretation gains much from Furtwängler's willingness to be at once serious and naive, unfolding the great work in massive breaths while at the same time rushing in to colour episodes with a childlike intensity and immediacy of vision.

But renewed acquaintance can also bring doubts. For instance, Ludwig Suthaus does cut a stiff figure as Tristan, and though Kirsten Flagstad was incomparable as Isolde, she was perhaps less incomparable by 1952. It may be the new sound, or it may be the intervening recorded Isolde of Margaret Price and Hildegard Behrens, but the matronliness of Flagstad's performance seems to matter more. What is still thoroughly enjoyable is the young Fischer-Dieskau's feeling Kurwenal.

With the *Ring* recording, the outstanding problem is the Italian orchestra, which can on occasion draw from Furtwängler's slow fire, but which can also sound scrappy or incoherent (I cannot explain the

erratic account of Siegfried's funeral music, for instance, except as motivated by the conductor's despair; and the chorus in this act are pretty terrible too).

On the credit side, there are a great many excellent solo performances: Martha Mödl bending her voice with physical urgency into Brünnhilde's line, Ferdinand Frantz imposing authority as Wotan, Josef Greindl sounding out of a spiritual blackness as Hagen, Sena Jurinac glorious as Gutrune. Nevertheless, it is now clear that this could not be anyone's first choice for a *Ring*; that has to be, as I decided here some while back, Böhm's Bayreuth recording.

In many ways the *Don Giovanni* set, recorded at Salzburg in 1954, raises fewer problems. The Vienna Philharmonic in Mozart is something very different from the RAI Rome Symphony in Wagner, and Furtwängler is able to speak through them much more directly: the scale of his intentions is evident right from the

first wild, crushing chord, which sets out to make the opera a profound event in one's life.

This is not, it need hardly be said, a view of Mozart that accords with current fashion. The tempos are generally slow, to accommodate a big sound and generous phrasing; if anyone tried to reproduce such a performing style today, it could not possibly work, so different is the temper of the times. But this is the great value of this recording, that it can challenge one to respond to the work in a quite other, and surely no less rewarding, way.

What the set also offers is a remarkable cast, led by Cesare Siepi's darkly-alluring Don, neatly balanced by Otto Edelmann's swifter, lighter Leporello. Elisabeth Schwarzkopf is the wonderful Elvira, but Elisabeth Grümmer (also Furtwängler's Freia) is by no means outshine as Donna Anna. One catches Walter Berry in fresh youth as Masetto.

Paul Griffiths

Best side story

Bernstein: Symphonies 1-2. Ludwig/Foss/Israel PO/Bernstein. DG 415 984-2 (1 CD, also LP and cassette). Bernstein: Songfest. Chichester Psalms. National SO/Israel PO/Bernstein. DG 415 965-2 (1 CD, also LP and cassette). Bernstein: Divertimento. Hallé, Meditations, On the Town. Rimpal/Rostropovich/Israel PO/Bernstein. DG 415 966-2 (1 CD, also LP and cassette). Bernstein: Mass. Original Cast/Bernstein. CBS M2P 42238 (2 LPs, also cassette). Bernstein: Stravinsky/Brubeck: Jazz works. Goodman/Columbia Jazz Ensemble/New York PO. CBS MP 39768 (1 LP, also cassette).

Leonard Bernstein's current high profile in Britain has prompted much reissuing of earlier recordings, generally concentrating on this polymath musician's more "serious" compositions. He once defined his entire output as being about "the crisis of our century, a crisis of faith".

The First Symphony (1942), for example, is an obvious early manifestation of this search for God. Entitled "Jeremiah", it is steeped in Hebrew chant from its brooding, neo-Mahlerian opening to its soothing finale, setting the *Lamentations* (sung with a potent mixture of sensuality and conviction by Christa Ludwig). The work is very much a symphonic child of its time; indeed, its consolatory ending in some ways resembles Tippett's oratorio of the same period.

The "loss of faith" problem is more subtly approached in the Second Symphony through reference to the Auden poem which gives the work its title: *The Age of Anxiety*. Unfortunately the parts I find most attractive — like the slick, jazzy *Masque* movement — are the very bits supposed to represent pointlessness and frenetic social activity. Conversely the passages evoking rebirth and spiritual hope sound disconcertingly similar to film-scores like *The*



Leonard Bernstein: from God to Broadway and rock gospel

Ten Commandments. Another American composer, Lukas Foss, plays the important concertante piano part superbly, and in both works the Israel Philharmonic performs creditably.

The Chichester Psalms recording is disappointing, chiefly because the balance between instruments and voices is frequently awry. The Vienna Youth Choir rarely administers an antidotal cutting-edge to the rather sugary melodies, and the boy entrusted with the big Psalm 23 solo wavers a little in pitch.

Yet the disc is worth buying for the 1977 work *Songfest*, commissioned from Bernstein for the American Bicentenary (he was late finishing it). Setting 12 American poems for six singers and orchestra, the *Songfest* is a tour-de-force of vocal eclecticism. Its parodies of hymns, barbershop and scat-singing are even more impressive than its "sincere" numbers, though the deliberately naive setting of Whitman's *To what you said*... (a homosexual lyric, suppressed in his day) is stunning, especially when graced by Donald Gramm's warm tone.

Divertimento is a similarly virtuosic compilation of allusions, mimicry and puns, written to celebrate the Boston Symphony Orchestra's centenary (hence its somewhat wearying use of the melodic formula B-C). On this live recording the Israel Philharmonic is not ideally idiomatic in the dance numbers, but it gives full-blooded treatment to the finale: a march called *The BSO Forever* which, de-

Team with a touch of class

Bizet: *La Jolie Fille de Perth*. Anderson/Kraus/Güllöck; New Philharmonic Orch./Prere. EMI EX 2702653 (3 records). Cas. EX 2702658 (2 TCs). Weber: *Euryanthe*. Norman/Hunter/Gedda/Kraus; Dresden Staatskapelle/Janowski. EMI EX 2606983 (3 records).

A good quarter of a century separates the birth dates of the young American soprano, June Anderson, and the tenor Alfredo Kraus. But at the moment they are making Paris fight for tickets to hear them in Donizetti's *La Fille du régiment*.

And together they are teamed again in this month's release on record of another Bizet: *La Jolie Fille de Perth* in which, if there is any justice, they should have an equal space.

Bizet's opera, first heard at Christmas 1867, has been kept from more than the occasional airing in the theatre by its sprawling and inconsequential libretto.

Just as Hollywood in the Forties was in the habit of buying up novel rights and then using nothing but the title, so it was with Bizet's librettists who took Sir Walter Scott's *The Fair Maid of Perth* and then junked the plot.

They served up instead a tale of a smith (called, of course, Smith) who fashions a golden rose for his beloved, Catherine. (Smith is a Rensselaerville long before Strauss and Hofmannsthal came together). Catherine tosses it away in a fit of pique; accusations of infidelity surely follow until all is resolved happily to the notes of the Serenade, which the late Heddle Nash made one of his party pieces on the old Home Service.

Those who hear Alfredo Kraus sing it, with his customary style and mellifluousness, in this new recording may well be in for a surprise. The score has been considerably cleaned up. The Serenade, "A la voix", is one of despair rather than wailing. And there is quite a bit of melancholy in the score: the drinking song of the apprentice Ralph (excellently taken

by Jose Van Dam) is full of dark thoughts. It is only when the wicked Duke of Rothsay (a high baritone role, who draws a performance of great distinction from Gino Quilico) raises his glass that spirits rise, as well as fall down the gullet.

Catherine, who finally comes to her senses like Elvira in *I puritani* when she hears her favourite air, is a pallid role which needs all June Anderson's bravura singing to bring it to life. This *Jolie Fille* has through and through a cast of the highest quality, which make one hope an opera house will try and give it a revival of equal distinction.

The orchestral sound is less satisfactory, at least on the cassette version, with a distant and occasionally boomy acoustic. Georges Pretre gets the players going in the Bohemian all the best songs are in Act II — but elsewhere he is too remote.

The sound is not of the best either in *Euryanthe*, but that was recorded back in 1975.

The hero Adolar has killed the fearful serpent which threatened them both, but then abandons his Euryanthe. Nicolai Gedda is somewhat stretched as Adolar; graceful passages are followed by notes which could — and should — have been re-recorded. But there are powerful contributions from the villains, Lysistrat, Count de Beaulieu, and Eglantine, sung by Tom Krause and Rita Hunter. Marek Janowski shows a skilled hand with the orchestra, but even in this digital remastering there is a lack of richness.

Alfredo Kraus: hitting high note

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John Higgins

THE WEEK AHEAD

By Peter Waymark

Clarke's ear for the art of dangerous laughter

Roy Clarke's comedy lives dangerously, eschewing the traditional props of plot and incident and depending almost entirely on the inconsequential mouthings of his more or less dotty characters. The formula can work brilliantly, as it does in *The Last of the Summer Wine*, or it can totter to disaster.

The latest Clarke series, *The Clairvoyant* (BBC2, Thurs, 9.30pm), could on the evidence of the first episode go either way. The Clarke signature is immediately evident, in the leisurely pace and idiosyncratic dialogue and the refusal to let the storyline dominate.

The central character (played by Roy Kinnear) is a used car salesman who thinks he can foretell the future. Sandra Dickinson, of the shrill American voice you either love or hate, is his girl friend and Hugh Lloyd, once a marvellous stooge for Tony Hancock, the petrol pump attendant.

The producer, Alan J. W. Bell, places the Kinnear-Dickinson exchanges in the tradition of Burns and Allen. The comparison is not immediately apparent. But if *The Clairvoyant* is not an obvious ratings topper, nor, when it started and indeed for many years afterwards, was *The Last of the Summer Wine*.

The trouble with alternative comedy, whether practised by The Young Ones or Spitting



Roy Clarke: too early to tell

TELEVISION

Image, is that too often the desire to shock overrides the more difficult and basic function of comedy, which is to be funny. To utter rude words on *Wogan* is not enough.

These thoughts are prompted by *Naked Video* (BBC2, Mon, 9.30-10pm), which has the same production team as *A Kick Up the Eighties* and performers who cut their teeth on an award-winning series for Radio Scotland, reinforced by John Sparkes and Helen Lederer from the London cabaret circuit.

Targets include the BBC's *Nine O'Clock News*, Cilla Black and the Sinclair CS tricycle. Among the show's

running characters are a raucous Glasgow spiv and the owner of a nearly bald pate trying to make the most of his few remaining strands. Vulgarity is much to the fore, sometimes to hilarious effect as in a sketch about Mr Kipper's contractive sponges, and at other times not.

Though the alternative comedians would be reluctant to admit it, the most successful comedy is often the least ambitious. There a lot to be said for taking a simple, even cliché idea, and sticking with it. Thus *Sorry!*, back for a new series tonight (BBC1, 7.30pm), with Ronnie Corbett as the middle-aged librarian still firmly tied to his mother's apron strings.

In *The Best Years of Your Life* (BBC2, Wed, 9.25-10.15pm) a 17-year-old boy who wanted to be a footballer is coming to terms with the fact that he is dying of cancer. So, in their different ways, are his brother and his father.

Written by 20-year-old Clive Jermian, himself suffering from cancer, the play manages the considerable feat of being neither depressing nor mawkish. The boy is played by Lee Whitlock, David Warner's son in *Hold the Back Page*.

Three burning social issues — test-tube babies, surrogacy and aids — are aired in *Society, Science and Sex* (ITV, Mon to Wed, 10.30-11.30pm). The programmes bring together experts in the various fields.

Quality on a shoestring



The other side of the camera: Melanie Mayron in *Girlfriends*

Claudia Weill's first feature, *Girlfriends* (BBC2, tomorrow, 11.05pm-12.35am) is another reminder that good films do not necessarily depend on large budgets and glamorous stars. Indeed much of the quality of *Girlfriends* derives precisely from the absence of such supposed advantages.

Weill made *Girlfriends* in 1978 when she was in her early thirties after a promising career in television and documentary, and thus added her name to the still small list of woman directors. Appropriately, *Girlfriends* is about female relationships, explored with a woman's insight.

The setting is Manhattan, where Susan Weinblatt, just out of college, scrapes a living photographing weddings and bar mitzvahs and has a relationship with a middle-aged married rabbi. But Susan's emotional prop is her fiancée, Anne, and when Anne moves out to get married, Susan feels betrayed and insecure.

FILMS ON TV

Her career is getting nowhere and her private life goes from one emotional crisis after another. She picks up and drops a young university teacher and then does the same to a lesbian dancer, Anne, for her part, finds marriage stifling, accuses Susan of being selfish and insensitive and resents her apparent independence.

Such a bald summary cannot do justice to the intelligence and freshness of the film. To start with, Weill uses New York as much more than a backdrop. The city, with its size and anonymity, compounds Susan's insecurity, trapping her in an unfriendly world of flats and offices. *Girlfriends* adroitly blends the emotional landscape with the physical one.

But the emotional territory remains at the heart of the film

and here a key point is the character of Susan. The casting is important. Were she played by an established Hollywood star, the audience's reading of the performance would inevitably be coloured by its previous knowledge of that actress and her roles. That Susan is played by an unknown, Melanie Mayron, means that actress and role are to all intents indivisible.

The further point is that Susan/Mayron is not the conventional Hollywood glamour queen. On the contrary she is on the plump side, has bad teeth and wears glasses. A film which has been compared with *Unmarried Woman*, another study of a woman alone in the Big Apple. But here the credibility of the central character was compromised by Jill Clayburgh's assertive star performance. You never felt for a minute that she would be unable to cope. Mayron, on the other hand, comes across as vulnerable as she looks.

A passion for trains that earned millions

RADIO

ner to become Commander-in-Chief of the Army, unaware that Kitchener would try to ruin him and put India under military control.

The battle between these formidable men is told largely in their own words, taken from contemporary documents. Alec McCowen plays Curzon and Jeremy Kemp is Kitchener.

The 600th anniversary of the signing of a friendship treaty between England and Portugal is marked by Radio 4 tomorrow with *It's Your World* (12.10-1pm) — in which the guest is Portugal's prime minister Aníbal Cavaco Silva — and *The Oldest Ally* (9.30-10pm), the first of three Robert Graham programmes looking at Portugal's past, present and future.

Nevil Shute's *No Highway* is the new Radio 4 Classic Serial (tomorrow, 7-8 pm) in a three-part dramatization by Brian Gear. Norman Bowler plays the RAF boffin who discovers metal fatigue in the tailpiece of a new airliner.

Juliet Ace: a playwright always worth listening to, is the author of *Jonathan George Can Walk on Water* (Radio 4, Tues, 3-4 pm). Jonathan (Peter Jeffrey) returns to his birthplace, a West Country fishing port, to discover that its former shabby charm has been transformed into a gleaming film set.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL: Booking opens Mon for programme including rare staging of Shakespeare/Mendelssohn *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, recitals to mark the centenary of Liszt's death; and Masters of the Kings Music and London Early Music Group playing music from Elizabeth I to George II. Also Medley and Lindsay Quartets, Chris Barber's Jazz Band, Acker Bilk and Jacques Loussier, plus full festival fringe. Personal booking May 19. St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4 (01-236 2801).

HALLÉ PROMS: Season includes Mozart and Beethoven and American evenings, with soloists Peter Donohoe, Ronald Frost and Donohoe. Ronald Frost and Donohoe. June 17-July 6. Kathryn Slater. Free Trade Manchester opens today. Hallé, 30 Cross Street, Manchester M2 (061 834 1712).

OPERA NORTH: Season opens May 27 with major restaging of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Gounod's *Faust*, and new production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*. Performances at Leeds, Nottingham, Manchester and York. May-July. Leeds Grand Theatre, 45 New Briggate, Leeds (0532440871).

ROYAL OPERA: Personal and phone booking open for June/July. New productions include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Fidelio*, plus *Così fan Tutte* and *Eugene Onegin*. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, 48 Floral Street, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

WILMSLOW SPRING FESTIVAL: Phone booking from this week for first Wilmslow festival, which celebrates the Best of British and features George Melly and John Clifton's *Feetwarmers*, the Madrigal Quartet and John Bingham's *Gaillard*, and Dobcross

Brass Band in open-air concert, May 29-June 1. Box Office, Leisure Centre, Rectory Fields, Wilmslow, Cheshire (0625-533789).

SUMMER CATHEDRALS FESTIVAL: Booking open for new festival of concerts at 24 cathedrals, featuring London Festival Orchestra with cathedral choirs, and Janet Baker in gala performance at Ripon Cathedral. Venues include Rochester, Bristol, Paisley, Portsmouth. May 31-Oct 4. Central Box Office and Information: PO Box 1, St Albans, AL1 4ED (0727377799).

SHAKESPEARE OPEN AIR THEATRE: Booking open for 1986 season with productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Shakespeare's Arms and the Man*; 25 sonnets will be spoken each day by company members. May 30-Sep 6. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, London NW1 (01-935 5756).

WARWICK ARTS FESTIVAL: General public booking from this week for festival marking anniversaries of Weber's birth, Liszt's death and 50th birthday of Richard Rodney Bennett. New features include opera (by Cameo) and Saturday morning coffee concerts. Artists include Richard Rodney Bennett, Sam Houston Chorale from America, Anthony Goldstone, Kathryn Stott and Caroline Dale. There will be performances of *Twelfth Night* at Warwick Castle, July 2-13. Festival Office, Northgate, Warwick. (0926-492468).

AMERICAN DANCE SEASON: Ends tonight (7.30) with programme of new works from Bill Jones and Arnie Zane's company. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916).

MRS WARREN'S PROFESSION: Anthony Page's production, with Jessica Turner. Finishes today (2.15 and 7.45 pm). Lyttelton Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252).

TORCH SONG TRILOGY: Last performances today (2 and 7 pm) of Harvey Flersheim's play, in production by Robert Allan Ackerman. Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC1 (01-836 3878).

DAVID HOCKNEY LITHOGRAPHS: Vivid colour and photo-collages based on Kenneth Tyler's new lithography techniques. Ends tomorrow. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313).

BERNSTEIN FESTIVAL: Ends this weekend with performance of his *Mass* at Guildhall School of Music (tonight, 7.30), and charity concert tomorrow. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Information 01-638 4141.

LAST CHANCE

BERNSTEIN FESTIVAL: Ends this weekend with performance of his *Mass* at Guildhall School of Music (tonight, 7.30), and charity concert tomorrow. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Information 01-638 4141.

RECOMMENDED

The Pink Panther (1963): Peter Sellers as the bumbling Inspector Clouseau in the first and best of the long-running series (BBC1, today, 10.05am-noon).

Rose of Washington Square (1939): Al Jolson and some of his finest songs as a fictionalized biopic of Broadway star Fanny Brice (Channel 4, today, 2.35-3pm).

Freud: The Secret Passion (1962): The early cases of the great psychoanalyst, broodingly played by Montgomery Clift (Channel 4, today, 11pm-1.15am).

Roman Holiday (1953): Romance in Rome for newspaperman Gregory Peck and princess Audrey Hepburn (BBC1, tomorrow, 3.55-5.50pm).

Albert RN (1953): Anthony Steel and Jack Warner fooling the Germans with a dummy in POW escape story (Channel 4, tomorrow, 10.30pm-12.10am).

"The Angelic Conversation" (1982): Images by Derek Jarman for 14 Shakespeare sonnets, read by Judi Dench (Channel 4, Mon, 11pm-12.25am).

Picnic at Hanging Rock (1975): Peter Weir's fine Australian film about the mysterious fate of Victorian schoolchildren (BBC2, Tues, 9-10.50pm).

The Tiffeld Thunderbolt (1952): Cossy Ealing comedy with Stanley Holloway leading the light to save a rural railway (BBC1, Wed, 6-7.20pm).

*denotes first British television showing

THE WEEK AHEAD



CONCERTS

ON SONG: Valerie Masterson, ex-D'Oyly Carte and now one of the Coliseum's favourite sopranos, forsakes the theatre for the concert hall for a recital of songs and arias, mainly British and French. Wigmore Hall (01-935 2141), today, 7.30pm.



BOOKS

STAGE SECRETS: Laurence Olivier gives an inside view of his profession, ruminating on his successes and failures and revealing how he created some of his great roles, from Richard III to Othello and Archie Rice, in *On Acting* (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £12.95).



ROCK

RISEING SON: Julian Lennon may have his father's voice, nose and leather jacket, but the jury is still out on the dimension of his songwriting talent. Further evidence can be heard at the Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212) on Monday and Tuesday.



THEATRE

DOUBLE TROUBLE: Roger Rees is the star and co-author with Eric Elc of *Double Trouble*, a thriller about a woman encountering a tramp who resembles her former lover. His leading lady is Jane Lapotkina. Palace Watford (0923 25671) from Thursday.



TELEVISION

PURPLE PROSE: Alice Walker, whose novel *The Colour Purple* has been filmed by Steven Spielberg, discusses in a rare television interview the central theme of her work, the creative spirit of the black woman. *Omnibus*, BBC1, Friday, 10.20-11.20pm.



GALLERIES

IN THE STYLE: Cecil Beaton's unique contribution to 20th-century style is reflected in a first major retrospective. There are more than 700 items on show, including paintings, costumes, photographs and drawings. Barbican Centre (01-638 4141), from Friday.

TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

DALLANCE: Tom Stoppard's version of Arthur Schnitzler's *Liebesold*, directed by Peter Wood. Tragic love in turn-of-the-century Vienna. Brenda Blethyn, Michael Bryant, Lytton (01-928 2252). Previews Thurs, Fri May 17, 19-24, 26. Opens May 27. In repertory.

THE NORMAL HEART: Tom Hulce, creator of the role of Ned Weeks in the US, takes over from Martin Sheen as the Royal Court production of Larry Kramer's AIDS drama transfers to the West End. Albery (01-635 3678). Previews from Tues. Opens May 20.

SONS OF CAIN: David Williamson's satirical comedy about investigative journalism comes to London from success in Australia and with an all-Australian cast, headed by Ray Barrett. Directed by John Noble. Wyndham's (01-938 3028). Previews from Wed. Opens May 19.

OPENINGS

CREDITORS: August Strindberg's "masterpiece" in an updated version of the Michael Meyer translation. Produced and performed by Suzanne Bertish, Jonathan Kent, Ian McDiarmid, in collaboration with Casper Wrede. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Tues-June 7.

DOUBLE CROSS: Stephen Rea plays both Brendan Bracken, a confidant of Churchill, and William Joyce, Hitler's Lord Haw-Haw, in Thomas Kibbey's play, with Richard Howard, Kate O'Toole. Royal Court (01-730 1745). Opens today.

DOUBLE DOUBLE: World premiere of Eric Elc and Roger Rees play in which a woman takes home a tramp who resembles a former lover. Leon Rubin directs Jane Lapotkina and Rees. Palace, Watford (0923 25671). From Thurs. Press preview May 20.

REAL DREAMS: British premiere of a Trevor Griffiths play about educated young white American liberals in Cleveland, Ohio, 1969, who are committed to Third World revolution. The Pit, Barbican (01-628 8795/638 8891). Performances Tues, Wed. Press night Thurs.

OUT OF TOWN

EXETER: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. Dale Wasserman's play of the Ken Kesey novel set in a mental institution. Pip Miller, Michael Gunn and Zoë Hicks. Northcott (0392 54853). Until May 24.

GLASGOW: Thomas Muir's *Voyage to Australia*, first part of a commissioned trilogy by Peter Arnott on the life of "the first major martyr of the Scottish Republican Movement". Tron (014 562 4267). Until May 18.

GUILDFORD: Cuckoo: Rosemary Leach stars in the premiere production of Emylin Williams's play about an eccentric family living on a Thames island in the 1930s.

LIVERPOOL: Something Wicked This Way Comes: Liz Barltrop and Andrew

FILMS

OPENINGS

HE DIED WITH HIS EYES OPEN (18): Entertaining French thriller with a fine performance by Michel Serrault as the police inspector whose murder investigation leads to a passionate affair with Charlotte Rampling. Directed by Jacques Deray. Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). From Fri.

9½ WEEKS (18): The empty story of a bizarre, tumultuous love affair between stockbroker Mickey Rourke and art gallery employee Kim Basinger; directed in pop video style by Adrian Lyne. ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (01-936 6273). From Fri.

THE HITCHER (18): Everyone's fears about hitch-hiking are boringly realized in this handsomely-shot thriller with Rutger Hauer as a lit-thumping psychopath. Directed by Robert Harmon. Prince Charles (01-437 8181). From Fri.

THE SLUMBER PARTY MASSACRE (18) and STREETWALKIN' (18): Two low-budget exploitation movies. The former, directed by Amy Jones, at least mixes gore with black humour; the latter, directed by Joan Freeman, is an elephantine tale of prostitution and pimp warfare. ICA Cinema (01-630 3647). From Fri.

SELECTED

VAGABONDE (18): Agnès Varda's bleak but compelling account of a teenage wanderer's last weeks, with a powerful performance by Sandrine Bonnaire. Renou Russell Square (01-837 8402). Minima (01-235 4225).

LOVE LETTERS (18): Thoughtful drama with Jamie Lee Curtis as the other woman in an extra-marital affair. Directed by Amy Jones. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148).

ZINA (15): Zina is Trotsky's daughter, hauntingly played by Domiziana Giordano. An austere, striking British independent feature, directed by Ken MacMillan. Gate Notting Hill (01-221 0220). Metro (01-437 0757).

CARAVAGGIO (15): Derek Jarman's film about the work and scandals of the 16th century painter, with minimal sets and maximum ingenuity. Lumiere (01-636 0691).

CONCERTS

MUSIC MAKERS: Richard Hickox conducts the LSO and choir in Weber's *Oberon* Overture, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto (soloist, Ida Haendel) and Elgar's *The Music Makers*. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795, credit cards 01-638 8891). Today, 7.45 pm.

POST-AFTERNOON: The Simon Rattle/Philharmonia Orchestra "Après l'Après-midi" series continues with Sade's *Parade*, Koechlin's *Les Bandes-Les*, Debussy's *Marys de Saint Sébastien*, some Duparc songs (Ann Murray, mezzo). Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, credit cards 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30 pm.

ALL RUSSIAN: Under Mark Emler, the City of London Sinfonia plays Arensky's *Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky*, Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, Shostakovich's *Concerto for Piano and Trumpet* (Joseph Kalichstein and Crispin Steele-Perkins respectively). Barbican Centre, Mon, 7.45 pm.

ALL BEETHOVEN: LPO, under Klaus Tennstedt, plays the *Leonora No 3 Overture*, Violin Concerto (Shlomo Mintz, soloist), Symphony No 5. Festival Hall, Mon, 7.30 pm.

PIANO PLUS: Eden and Tamir play Stravinsky's *Five*

Easy Pieces, Milhaud's

Scaramouche, Poulenc's *Sonata* and, with percussionists, Bartók's *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion*. Wigmore Hall, 25 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Tues, 7.30 pm.

TAMAS VASARY plays Beethoven's *Sonatas Op 27 Nos 1 and 57*, Liszt's *Dante Sonata*, and a Chopin group. St John's, Smith Sq, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Tues, 7.30 pm.

ALL-FRENCH: The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, under Louis Frémaux, plays Sade's *Gymnopédies*, d'Indy's *Symphonie sur un Chant Montagnard* and Saint-Saëns's *Symphonie No 3*. Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30 pm.

KORNGOLD CONCERTO: Korngold's worthy Violin Concerto is played by Stephen Bryant with the Salomon Orchestra conducted by Malcolm Binney. St John's, Wed, 8 pm.

RATTLE/PHILHARMONIA: More "Après l'Après-Midi".

Easy Pieces, Milhaud's Scaramouche, Poulenc's Sonata and, with percussionists, Bartók's Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion. Wigmore Hall, 25 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Tues, 7.30 pm.

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Coliseum, St Martin's Lane,

London WC2 (01-836 3161). **BRITISH FESTIVAL:** New Sussex Opera's *Aida* is in the times of the Franco-Prussian war. Tonight, Mon, Wed and Fri (7.45 pm).

THE DOME, Brighton (0273 674357). **SCOTTISH OPERA:** Performances today, Tues and Thurs (7.15 pm), of John Cox's new production of *The Marriage of Figaro*. Gorgey Fischer conducts. Anthony Besch's production of *Tosca* returns on Wed (7.15 pm) and May 17 (2.15 pm).

THEATRE ROYAL, Glasgow (041 331 1234). **NIELSEN FIRST:** Morley College presents the first UK staging of Carl Nielsen's *Maskeade* (Mon, Tues 7.30 pm). Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 (01-928 8501).

ROCK AND JAZZ

WATERBOYS: A developing rock band who bring a sense of spontaneity to the sort of romantic sensibility for which U2 are famous. Tonight, Leeds University (0532 43071). Tues, Hammersmith Palace (01-748 4081).

NEWCASTLE JAZZ FESTIVAL: Beginning tonight with Loose Tubes, this aesthetically free-ranging event also features the US guitarist Tai Farrow (Tues) and the duo of multi-instrumentalist John Surman and singer Karin Krog (Fri). From tonight, New Playhouse, Newcastle upon Tyne (0632 323421).

IMAGINATION: Billed as the fifth anniversary celebration of the creators of "Body Talk", perhaps the first really convincing British soul group. Thurs, Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212).

TED HEATH BAND: Singers Dennis Lotis and Lita Roza come under Don Lusher's baton in this reunion. Thurs, Barbican Hall, London EC2 (01-628 8795).

PHOTOGRAPHY

DAVID REDFERN: One of the masters of jazz photography whose career spans 25 years from the early days of television's *Ready Steady Go* through to Ronnie Scott's club. Pictures include early Beatles and Ella Fitzgerald. Redfern's collection is today regarded as one of the best in Europe. The West End Gallery, 186 Drury Lane, London, WC2 (01 831 0196).

CECIL BEATON: A major retrospective for this well known photographer. Portraits, fashion and war - Beaton covered it all. The whole exhibition amounts to a fascinating trail through the 20th century. This one must not be missed. Barbican Art Gallery, Barbican, London, EC2 (01 628 4141).

DANCE

ROYAL BALLET: MacMillan triple bill *Concerto, Le Baiser de la Reine, and Anastasia*. Mon, Thurs. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Two performances at Plymouth today of *Les Sylphides*, *Prigodil Son* and *Elle Syncope*, then *Aspen* (Wed-June 3) in the Big Top in Sheffield. First week. *The Sleeping Beauty*. Theatre Royal, Plymouth (0752-669595). Big Top, Norfolk Park, Sheffield (advance booking at Crucible Theatre, 0742 739244).

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Last performance (7 pm tonight) of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*. Then *Tosca* on Tues and Fri (7.30 pm), with Maria Zampieri, Giuseppe Giacomini, Inger Wixell, Richard van Allen. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: New production of Busoni's *Doctor Faustus* (Thurs at 7 pm); a stalwart revival of *Die Fledermaus* (tonight and Wed, 7.30 pm); and Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* (Fri, 7.30 pm).

An actor at the heart of his art



Tom Hulce, complete with the stubble he hopes will age him

Tom Hulce has discarded the powder and patch of *Amadeus* for a contemporary brat pack uniform of black leather jacket, tennis shirt and clean white sneakers.

He sat a shade uneasily in his rented Knightsbridge flat struggling for a line to Austria and commenting in between on the general décor of his surroundings. "This reminds me of something from a Penelope Keith comedy series," he said, quite sure of his references. "You didn't think this was my taste, did you? Oh no, I would wish for something a little more...funky."

Since he will be working away from his native America for most of this summer, next stage on the agenda is a visit to the estate agents. Hulce has arrived in London to replace Martin Sheen in Larry Kramer's notorious play *The Normal Heart* which tackles the subject of AIDS through a love story between two homosexuals.

It has received a prodigious amount of attention and equal parts of praise and criticism not least from the homosexual community who object to Kramer's advocacy of monogamy.

A couple of months ago Hulce was at the Lyric, Hammersmith, watching a performance of Doug Lucie's *Progress*. He decided that the place where he would most like to work next was the London stage, but because of Equity restrictions he imagined that the only possible role he could be offered would be in some kind of transferred Broadway extravaganza. So when he was offered the opportunity to play Ned Weeks in the *Normal Heart* it came close to serendipity.

He had already tackled the role with the Longwalk Theatre Company (the team that brought Al Pacino to London in *American Buffalo*) and because of this feels less reservation that he might have done about succeeding Sheen who has received immense acclaim in the part.

"It is a quite different production to the one I was in. It is an exceptional company", he emphasises, after having

Tom Hulce, back in London to take over the lead in *The Normal Heart*, talks about his life to Alexandra Shulman

seen the current production the previous night. "Had I not played the role already it would have been very dangerous to watch Martin Sheen perform. There must be close on 20 years between us. The anger of a young man is very different, I think, from the anger of someone who has seen more."

Although the play is by no means filled with gratuitous and titillating displays of homosexuality, he admits that he found it strange to play intimate scenes opposite leading man. "It's like the scene in *Annie Hall* where Diane Keaton and Woody Allen are walking down the street at the start of their first date and he asks if he can kiss her so that they can get that bit out of the way and concentrate on having fun for the rest of the evening."

Hulce began his career in his teens. At 15 he decided that he would go to acting school instead of following the route he had previously chartered for himself as a singer. Back home in Michigan, his parents' marriage was breaking up and acting school in North Carolina was a legitimate escape route.

Within six months of leaving he was offered the role of Peter Firth's understudy in the New York stage production of *Equus*. It was there that he met Anthony Hopkins who now heads his list of heroes and whose performance in *Pravda* brought him to the brink of tears with admiration.

That was the beginning of a career which juggles stage, film and television work. *Amadeus* is both his crown and his ball and chain. When he speaks of the film it is with a mixture of awe and stifled boredom. As a relative unknown in America, and a total unknown in international

box-office terms, he was subjected to an arduous auditioning process for the title role by director Milos Forman.

Over a period of six months he beat down the competition, including Simon Callow, who had played the role on stage in England. In appearance, Callow bears similarities to Hulce with their youthful faces and stocky stature. They share, too, an actor's exuberance.

At one stage in the proceedings, Hulce was pleased to recall, he went home and packed up a suitcase full of his dirty laundry which he then deposited on the stage. There it served a dual purpose as a reassuring and familiar object and a prop for the chaos that was young Mozart's room.

"*Amadeus* was extreme. There were days that were devastating and days that were thrilling", he remembers. "Since we were shooting for over five months it becomes clear that, in the circumstances, what it is all about is discipline."

A more immediate process has been his move into the world of pop. With a taste for music that recognises not only Mozart but Rickie Lee Jones, Keith Jarrett, U2 and Bruce Springsteen, he is currently embarking on a subsidiary career as a pop singer.

Last year, while shooting his most recent film *Echo Park*, Hulce encountered Oceanfront, a German band based in a small town outside Zurich. One long night after several long drinks he joined them on vocals and was such a success that they composed a song specifically for him. The resulting single, polished up in the studio by Bill Wyman of the Rolling Stones, is shortly to be released in Europe by Ariola. "It is a bit poppy", said Hulce dismissively. "It's like, a tune you could dance to."

His ancestors wouldn't approve. Thirteen years ago, on his first trip to England, he spent two weeks on a bicycle eagerly tracking the family roots. He found them in a small Devon town where he discovered a great, great grandfather who had been a solid pillar of the establishment: the local choirmaster.

ARTS DIARY

Unholy writ

With a month to go before it has to respond, the BBC has yet to make a reply to the staggering £57.16 million writ it has received as a result of ducking out of satellite broadcasting.

Programme-makers in the Corporation are appalled that British Aerospace and General Electric Corporation, together with other companies making up the Unisat direct-broadcasting-by-satellite group, are suing the BBC for design, manufacture and financing cost since agreement was reached in 1982.

Though the writ was issued at the beginning of the year, little more has been heard of the action, which may take two years to reach the courts. But British Aerospace points out that time is running out for the Corporation to enter a defence. The BBC initially agreed to finance satellite broadcasting experiments to a total of £168 million, but pulled out when it realized the enormity of the experiment.

Bombing out

The roll-call of Americans avoiding these shores because of possible terrorist attack grows daily. The latest, surprisingly, is the classical and jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, 24. He was due to appear at the Capital Jazz Festival in London in July, and Festival director John Burrows is now tawling the US trying to find a replacement. "It's a shame there is such fear being generated that people won't travel to Europe", says Burrows. "If only they were here they'd see how life is going on as normal". Pop star Lionel Richie and blues singer Albert King are among those who have also found reasons to avoid a visit.

Bennett on

Jill Bennett's idea of bringing off-Broadway to London's West End will give a much-needed shot in the arm to fringe theatre. Her Off The Avenues production company will open up at the little-known Boulevard Theatre next month. Miss Bennett conceived the idea with director Sean Mathias and their



Bennett and Mathias

first offering will be his play *Infidelities* in which Jill takes the lead. But is theatreland's endearing soft-blond the stuff of which producers are made? "I've been out raising the money. I'm so dizzy, I didn't believe it could be done. But we need more. Have you got any to spare?" she breathed appealingly.

Off the Boil

In three month's time the Victoria and Albert Museum will remove a thorn from its side: the Boilerhouse Project. After four years of unconvincing exhibitions under the playful directorship of Stephen Bayley, the V & A can now return to middle-of-the-road middlebrow projects which will upset nobody. The lavatorial white-tiled exhibition area will now be used for an exhibition of the photographs of Irving Penn, followed by fashion designs of the '50s and '60s, Finnish furniture and Ferragamo shoes through three decades, instead of a baseball cap designed for two, and high-heeled roller-skates - examples from a recent Bayley exhibition.

Christopher Wilson

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1330.3 (-6.6)
FT-SE 100
1601.6 (-1.9)
USM (Datastream)
120.64 (+0.27)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.5385 (-0.007)
W German mark
3.3501 (-0.0152)
Trade-weighted
75.6 (-0.8)

Cookson's
£14m buy

Cookson Group, the chemicals to engineering combine, is paying £14 million for Leyland Metal, which operates companies engaged in the recycling of scrap aluminium. Leyland Metal, which earned £2 million profits last year, will be absorbed into the Cookson Fry division, which has sales of £94 million. The deal is being funded by the issue of Cookson shares.

Boot slumps

Henry Boot, the construction company, lost £7.13 million before tax in the year to December 31, against a profit of £4.05 million in 1984. Turnover rose from £153 million to £183 million and the final dividend has been cut from 11.5p to 5p.

Times, page 19

Going public

Arlington Securities, the business park developer, is to obtain a Stock Exchange listing. Hill Samuel will offer for sale 8.7 million ordinary 10p shares - or 18.2 per cent - at 115p each, capitalizing the company at £35.1 million.

Times, page 19

Burnett 'no'

Burnett & Hallamshire, the coal mining group, is still refusing to hand over information about its affairs to Anglo United Development - which wants to bid £42 million - claiming the information is commercially sensitive.



Selling Britain

Mr James Mellon (above), former British ambassador in Copenhagen, left London yesterday to become British trade commissioner in New York, a post of ambassadorial rank.

Bell holding

The Australian entrepreneur Mr Robert Holmes & Court, working through Bell Group and Bell Resources, has increased his stake in the Morgan Crucible materials technology group from 10.75 per cent to 11 per cent.

Shares rush

The application list for the share offer by Dalepak Foods closed yesterday, heavily oversubscribed, while the one by Monotype Corporation was twice covered.

Rate cut

The Australia and New Zealand Banking Group is to cut its prime lending rate from 18.60 per cent to 18.25 per cent on Monday.

Dollar drops to post-war low of 161 against yen

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The dollar slumped to a post-war low of 161.90 against the yen yesterday. There are market expectations that it will soon drop below 160, and could be headed for 150.

The Bank of Japan again intervened to attempt to stem the dollar's slide, and prevent the yen from rising further. But, according to one currency dealer, "The Japanese may be making things worse by letting everybody know that not even intervention can stop the yen rising."

The yen has risen by nearly 60 per cent against the dollar over the past 12 months. The failure of the Japanese prime minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, to convince the other six countries attending the Tokyo economic summit of the problems created by the yen's surge, has done him considerable political damage at home.

Foreign exchange dealers believe that intervention to stop the dollar falling will be ineffective as long as it is conducted by the Bank of Japan alone.

A London dealer said: "When the Bundesbank starts intervening in the European markets, people might decide that the dollar's fall has run its course."

There is a widely held view in the market that this could occur if the mark/dollar rate moves to DM2.15. Yesterday, it closed unchanged in London at DM2.1775.

However, the Bundesbank is playing down the possibility of intervention to support the dollar and, in particular, that Germany has reached an accord with Japan on stopping their currencies rising against the dollar.

The dollar closed at 162.10, compared with 163.50 on Thursday. The yen has been rising against all currencies, including the mark, this year. Japanese buyers were strongly in evidence during the week's \$27 billion US Treasury refunding operation, apparently little affected by the yen's move.

There were indications of heavy purchases of the 10 and 30-year bond issues, with one report that four Japanese securities firms bought \$6 billion of bonds on Thursday alone.

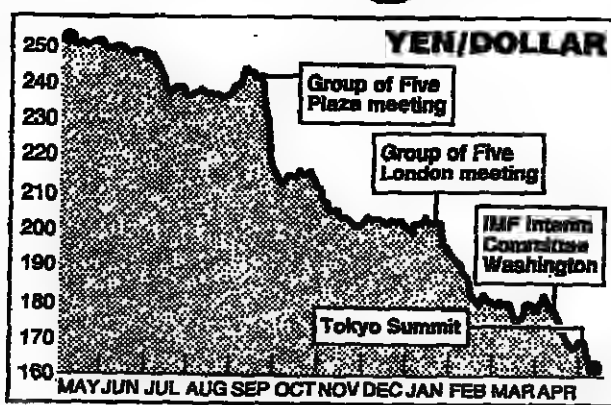
Overall, Japanese purchases during the week are likely to have been well in excess of \$10 billion.

The dollar's overall weakness - with economic data due next week expected to show a sluggish economy - disguised some selling of sterling after the Government's poor showing in the local elections and the two by-elections.

The pound fell by just 60 points to \$1.5385 but the sterling index fell 0.6 to 75.6, reflecting weakness against other currencies.

Dealers believe that politics will play an increasingly important part in the pound's performance in the coming months.

The prospect of a General Election with no clear majority government is considered particularly bad for sterling.



YEN/DOLLAR

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Compensation ceiling for investors to be raised

By Lawrence Lever

The level of compensation available to investors under the new self-regulatory framework for investment businesses is to be substantially increased in the light of the Government's decision, announced on Thursday, to grant immunity to the self-regulatory organizations.

Mr Michael Howard, the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, has written to all the SROs, asking them to look again at the issue of compensation as the proposed £30,000 ceiling per investor is regarded by the Government as patently inadequate.

A spokesman for the Department of Trade and Industry confirmed yesterday that the Government is looking for compensation levels to be increased to around £325,000.

"We would be happy to see figures for compensation similar to those in the United States," the spokesman said. "We would look at the Securities Industries Protection Corporation which pays up to \$500,000 for loss of securities, as an indication," he added.

The effect of the Financial Services Bill will make the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the new City watchdog, responsible for producing a compensation scheme which the Government is satisfied makes the best provision possible for investors.

A spokesman for the SIB said yesterday that in the light of Thursday's decision on immunity, "it was quite obvious that some form of quid pro quo is required. We can see the argument for raising the limit."

The SIB is understood to have been very surprised at the extent of the immunity which the Government has granted the SROs. This extends to protect the SROs from actions for damages brought by members of the public for negligence.

Significantly, Sir Kenneth Berrill, the chairman of the SIB, in his speech to the National Association of Pension Funds conference yesterday, made no reference to this aspect of the SROs' immunity in welcoming the Government's decision.

The SIB's proposals on compensation, released last December, do not apply to professionals. Moreover, the SIB has suggested that the scheme should be compulsory only for those seeking authorization directly from the SIB.

The Government is understood to oppose both these proposals.

New legal challenge to TSB flotation

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Scottish depositors of the Trustee Savings Bank have again thrown plans for the £1 billion flotation into confusion by deciding to appeal to the House of Lords over the question of who owns the bank.

Mr James Ross, the Scottish depositor who has already fought the TSB and the Treasury through the Scottish courts, said yesterday: "In my view there is still a case and I am prepared to go to the House of Lords and meet the considerable costs of doing so."

He may be joined by Mr John Vincent, a depositor with TSB England and Wales, who brought the case in England.

The appeal follows the failure of depositors in both the Scottish and English courts to gain a ruling saying that the TSB is owned by its depositors.

A ruling along these lines would make the flotation plans, which are based on the assumption that no one owns the bank, illegal.

Mr Ross said that although the depositors had not yet received the ruling they had hoped for, the basic question of ownership was still unresolved by the courts' judgements. He said that the recent English court ruling was clearly made on the expectation that the case would go to the House of Lords.

Mr Ross told the TSB that he had lodged his petition to the Lords yesterday. He said there was room for the case to be heard between June 16 and 19. "This is a little soon for our liking but it is a timetable to suit the bank which wants to get on with things."

Merlin International Properties, an Isle of Man company, is to seek a full listing on the Stock Exchange.

Merlin has an issued share capital of 12 million ordinary shares of 25p, and net assets for the year ended December 31 were £4.18 million, equal to 34.84p per share. Pretax profits were £230,274.

The company has developments in the Isle of Man, Canada and Australia.

Merlin says its shares have been traded outside the market at 45p.

Aitken snubs £91m Oppenheim offer

By Richard Lander

Aitken Home International, the financial group, has come out with a strong rebuttal of the £91 million all-paper takeover offer from Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier.

Aitken rejected the form of the bid, made on Thursday through Mr Oppenheim's Transworld bosomy group, and said it had the support of the Saudi Investment and Finance Corporation, which owns 15.2 per cent of its shares.

Aitken also said that investors owning a further 10 per cent of the group had indicated their support for the present management. On Thursday, Mr Oppenheim said his offer had been accepted by the 1928 Investment Trust, which owns 6.8 per cent of Aitken.

Mr Tony Constance, Aitken's chief executive, who took up his job in March after a drastic fall in interim profits and a series of boardroom and management departures, described the bid approach yesterday as "unwelcome and prejudicial" and said the new management and company strategy were in place to chart the group's recovery.

He responded to Mr Oppenheim's remarks that Aitken was too diversified by saying the group had decided to withdraw from property while its stake in the loss-making HCI Holdings Canadian investment trust would be reduced.

CH Industrials, an industrial holding company with interests ranging from car sunroofs to polymer products, has paid £4.5 million to GEC for Parnall and Sons, the office furniture and shopfitting group. CHI is issuing 6.63 million shares to GEC, enlarging its issued share capital by about a third, but these have already been placed at 69p each. CHI says the purchase price is equivalent to 8.2 times Parnall's estimated 1985-86 earnings.

Thorn EMI said last night that it had received £128 million in cash from Mr Alan Bond for Thorn EMI Screen Entertainment and that a further amount would follow. The final payment depends on completion of an auditors' report.

As a result of the sale Thorn EMI has been relieved of commitments on financing and distributing films estimated to be worth more than £100 million.

The company said the cash and releases should be seen against Screen Entertainment's profits of £4.8 million.

The proceeds from this sale and the disposal of the company's cable television and programming interests will enable it to concentrate resources on its core businesses.

Cater Allen issue to raise £18.3m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Cater Allen Holdings, the City discount house, yesterday announced that it was raising about £18.3 million through a rights issue.

The company also revealed profits of £4.5 million for the year to April 30 compared with £3.71 million the year before.

The new Cater Allen shares are being issued at a deep discount to market value to avoid the need for underwriting. This will save the company about £400,000 in underwriting and issuing costs.

The directors said that the money would be used primarily to strengthen the company's existing areas of business. These include gilt trading and traditional short-term money

Merlin seeks full listing

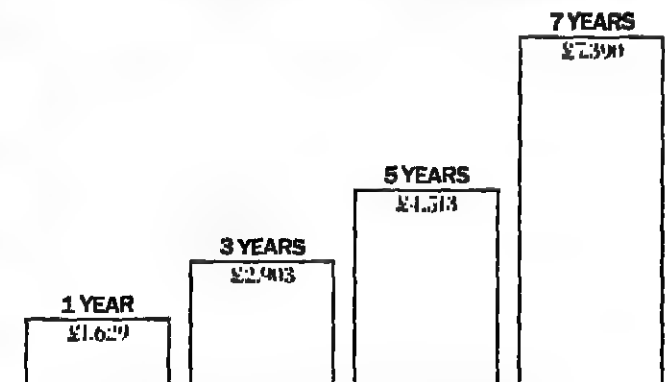
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Oppenheimer Fund Management Ltd

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| New York | 1781.99 (-4.22) |
| Dow Jones | 1781.99 (-4.22) |
| Tokyo | 16194.98 (+116.74) |
| Nikkei Dow | 16194.98 (+116.74) |
| Hong Kong | 1852.21 (-12.00) |
| Amsterdam Gen | 262.7 (-1.9) |
| Sydney AD | 1232.1 (-10.2) |
| Frankfurt | 2049.3 (-49.6) |
| Brussels | 669.00 (same) |
| General | 407.5 (+3.3) |
| Paris CAC | 407.5 (+3.3) |
| Zurich | 509.40 (same) |
| SKA General | 509.40 (same) |

INTEREST RATES

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| London: | |
| Bank Base: | 10% |
| 3-month interbank 10%: | 10% |
| 3-month eligible bills 10%: | 10% |
| buying rate | |
| Prime Rate: | 8.50% |
| Federal Funds: | 5 1/8% |
| 3-month Treasury Bills: | 6 06-6.05% |
| 30-year bonds: | 9 1/2-9 1/8% |

CURRENCIES

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| London: | |
| US \$: | 1.5385 |
| DM: | 3.3501 |
| Sw \$: | 1.7870 |
| Yen: | 249.39 |
| Yen: | 75.6 |
| New York: | |
| US \$: | 1.5400 |
| DM: | 3.3450-3.3455 |
| Sw \$: | 1.7870 |
| Yen: | 249.39 |
| Yen: | 75.6 |
| ECU: | 10.98197 |
| SDR: | 11.18401 |

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| RISE: | |
| Rank Organisation | 584p (+13p) |
| Shell | 748p (+13p) |
| Heston | 150p (+13p) |
| Brown Shipley | 520p (+50p) |
| Hampton Areas | 128p (+13p) |
| Aspinall Holdings | 165p (+10p) |
| UDG Holdings | 41p (+12p) |
| UDG Holdings | 41p (+12p) |
| Country Gents | 1325p (+105p) |
| Allied-Lyons | 321p (+8p) |
| Royal Insurance | 292p (+8p) |
| Desoucy | 280p (+7p) |
| WGL Holdings | 173p (+8p) |
| Helical Bar | 170p (+12p) |
| FALLS: | |
| Lucas | 553p (-30p) |
| Natwest | 455p (-15p) |
| Thorn EMI | 489p (-17p) |
| British Aerospace | 538p (-17p) |
| Avonrad | 489p (-20p) |
| Hilldown | 283p (-13p) |
| S W Benford | 214p (-7p) |
| Woolworth | 750p (-25p) |
| Coats Vytella | 492p (-18p) |
| Garnier Booth | 186p (-24p) |
| Good Relations | 153p (-15p) |
| WGL Holdings | 583p (-30p) |
| Cater Allen Holdings | 748p (-15p) |
| Union Discount | 748p (-15p) |

GOLD

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| London Fixing: | |
| AM \$344.50 pm \$345.35 | |
| COMEX \$345.00-345.50 | |
| 224.50 | |
| New York: | |
| Comex \$344.80-345.30 | |

TEMPUS

New management and hope to Boot

Henry Boot & Sons has lost its footing temporarily. In 1984 the Riyadh Zoo contract went wrong. In 1985 it was the Kwai Chin container terminal in Hong Kong and several other contracts. After a run like that, shareholders tend to view bad luck as endemic.

In the past few months the finance director has left, along with managers of various subsidiaries.

The hope is that new blood will help to return the company to profit. Last year, there was a swing from profits of £4.05 million to losses of £7.13 million before tax, but this year — Boot's centenary — there should be a good recovery, assuming there are no more large provisions.

The Kwai Chin contract was responsible for most of the £6.2 million overseas loss in 1985, but three British contracts were also in loss. The joinery and railway engineering businesses swung from combined profits of £1.4 million in 1984 to unquantified losses last year and there was a provision against the property development side.

The company has large contracts on the Singapore mass rapid transit railway and the Kowloon-Canton railway in Hong Kong which, it says, are going well. Overall levels of business, however, are likely to fall back this year.

Evered Holdings

The City is waking up to acquisition accounting. Accountants have long been aware of its uses and abuses, but analysts are only now coming to appreciate its importance.

Questions have already been raised in respect of Dixons Group and the Burton Group. There is widespread speculation that the next target will be Evered Holdings, best known for its stake in TI Group, but now bidding for McKechnie Brothers.

Evered's accounts, published last week alongside the offer document, spell out the effect of its merger accounting of Wellington Equipment, now known as the polymers division. Although it was acquired just before the year end, its profits were included for the full year. The accounts show clearly that this had the effect of increasing profits before tax by £1.2 million and earnings per share by 0.5p.

Questions remain about the acquisition accounting of Brockhouse, acquired by Evered in 1984. The Brockhouse assets had been stated at £21 million, but after writing down its properties and providing for reorganization costs, it is pointed out that Caparo Industries, a rival bidder for Brockhouse, was planning a larger write-down.

In the eight months of 1984 after acquisition Brockhouse contributed £2.25 million. The latest accounts do not, however, show how much of the improvement in group profits from £3.44 million to £7.87 million before tax came from the older Evered businesses and how much from Brockhouse, or how much of any improvement at Brockhouse reflected lower depreciation policies resulting from the write-down of its assets.

There is also a suggestion that property profits were material to last year's result. Evered points out that it would have had to disclose them if this were true.

The problem with acquisition accounting is partly one of disclosure as it tends to disguise the underlying performance of acquired businesses. This objection cannot be a criticism of Evered, in particular, as it has simply followed the relevant accounting standard, along with a mass of other companies.

Arlington Securities

Arlington Securities, the developer of business parks — a new and growing sector of the property market — is placing 18.2 per cent of its shares on

the market, valuing the company at £55.1 million.

The offer for sale, underwritten by Hill Samuel, the merchant bank, and de Zoete & Bevan, the broker, is for 8.7 million ordinary shares of 10p each at 115p per share. The forecast earnings per share of 7.28p puts the shares on a prospective p/e of 15.8 times.

Arlington is a property trading company, involved with partners in five existing business parks in the south of England with another two such schemes in the offing, one in Birmingham. It has a total land bank of 500 acres. It also has a large office project in hand in London's Fleet Street as well as the transformation of the former Whiteley's department store in West London.

Arlington is joining the growing band of quoted property trading companies which specialize in a sector of the market such as London & Edinburgh Trust, Speyhawk and Rosehaugh, now the "glamour" stocks.

Arlington's p/e ratio has been nicely judged compared with the likes of LET, which has a p/e of about 25 times.

Pretax profits for the year ended December 31 1985 are forecast to be not less than £5.15 million compared with a mere £85,000 in 1981. But Arlington, like many other developers, knows that it must raise money to retain a bigger share of development profits than is possible when schemes have to be forward funded.

The flotation is a way of achieving this.

Two private placings have already raised £8.3 million, and no shareholders nor directors-shareholders are to sell shares. It is expected that Arlington's stock will trade at a premium once dealings begin, possibly about 10 per cent above net asset value, which is 44.9p per share.

An external valuation of the portfolio has been undertaken by Richard Ellis, the surveyor. It has been a complicated task to assess the value of partnership ventures, and those where Arlington is involved in profits but does not own the land. But earnings will be more important than assets initially, although the company has long-term ambitions to retain some developments to build an asset base.

State sale delayed

By Teresa Poole

Privatization of the Crown Agents is unlikely to take place within the lifetime of the present Government.

Mr Peter Graham, senior crown agent, confirmed yesterday that he has been told there will be no time for legislation in the run-up to the general election.

Meanwhile, the agents' 1985 report showed further recovery from the 1983 crisis when the Sultan of Brunei removed his portfolio of funds from its management. Operating profits moved ahead from £1.08 million to £1.94 million on income increased by 15 per cent to £26.9 million, in line with government targets.

But Mr Graham said the decision this year to remove certain overseas pensions work had jeopardised future levels of profitability. Last year this business accounted for almost half the pretax profits.

During the year the agents placed orders worth £125 million and managed projects worth nearly £900 million, principal's funds worth £1.2 billion, and aid grants and loans worth £2.2 billion.

Barclays to sack 165

Barclays, one of the fastest-growing foreign banking groups in Italy, is to dismiss 165 of the 400 staff at its main Milan branch because of a "difficult and complex market situation," John Earle writes from Rome.

It intends, however, to consolidate its presence in the Italian market, a statement said. Last year, Barclays' Italian subsidiary reported a loss of 51,670 million lire (about £22.4 million) despite a 52 per cent rise in the volume of business.

Extension by Coloroll

Coloroll, the wallcoverings and textiles group, has extended its offer for Staffordshire Pottery until 3pm on Monday. By the Thursday closing date Coloroll had received acceptances for 24.2 per cent of the ordinary shares and 38.8 per cent of the non-voting preference capital.

With shares already owned by Coloroll and its financial advisers, the company has acceptances or owns the equivalent of almost 46 per cent on a fully-diluted basis.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Election losses prompt fall of nearly 7 points in index

The Government's poor showing in the elections dampened hopes of any further recovery yesterday.

Share prices moved lower after an early, modest improvement, which largely stemmed from a firmer Wall Street. Falls were quite large among some leaders.

The FT 30-share index slipped by 6.6 points to 1,330.3, while the FT-SE 100 index was 1.9 points lower at 1,601.6.

Lucas illustrated the trend by tumbling 30p to 563p, on reports of an adverse article in the weekend press. British Aerospace, a firm market of late on American support, dipped 17p to 538p in sympathy.

Thorn EMI was another predominantly weak spot at 469p — down 15p — after a suggestion that the troubled Iamos subsidiary was up for sale. Declines elsewhere ranged between 5p and 14p, but to attract some buying interest ahead of quarterly statements next week.

Stores had another dull session, still upset by the Harris Queensway rights issue and uninspiring figures from Marks and Spencer. An £18 million cash call from Cater Allen knocked 30p from the shares at 563p, upsetting other discount houses in sympathy.

Union Discount fell by 15p to 748p.

Best of the day's three newcomers was Tip Top Drug, which recorded a 20p premium at 180p, but well below best expectations. The day's other newcomers had mixed fortunes. Combined Lease Finance managed a fair premium over the 125p offering price, closing at 133p.

But Andler was sold at a discount, ending at 128p after being offered at 130p.

Motor distributors were stimulated by the record car sales in April.

Gifts had a quiet day, easing by a quarter in the conventional, but improving by an eighth in the index-linked stocks.

Building and properties lacked support. There were still plenty of situations on takeover speculation. Rank Organisation, firm on Thursday on unsubstantiated reports that Bond Corporation had acquired a stake, moved up 13p more to 584p.

Electronic issues remained nervous after the Diploma setback earlier this week. High-technology stocks were also dull, not helped by the suspension of CPS Computers at 9p following Thursday's sharp decline.

Comment on Thursday's end-of-year figures boosted Allied-Lyons, up 6p to 321p. In a dull banking sector, NatWest lost 15p to 855p.

RECENT ISSUES

| STOCK | PRICE | STOCK | PRICE |
|---------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |

RIGHTS ISSUES

| STOCK | PRICE | STOCK | PRICE |
|---------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |
| Andler (130p) | 128 | Tip Top Drug (180p) | 180 |

COMPANY NEWS

● GARNER BOOTH: Year to Jan. 31, 1986. Total dividend 10p (8.75p). Turnover £29.63 million (£20.91 million). Pretax profit £2.52 million (£1.77 million). Basic earnings per share 18.47p (13.22p).

● KINGSLEY & FORESTER GROUP: Results for 1985, compared with the previous nine months. Total dividend 3.03p (0.5p). Turnover £45.27 million (£31.1 million). Pretax profit £2.01 million (£1.84 million). Earnings per share 5.84p (6p). The board reports that turnover for the first quarter of 1986 is 30 per cent ahead of the same period last year.

● UNITED SPRING & STEEL: Half-year to March 31, 1986. Interim dividend 0.5p (0.3p), payable July 4. Turnover: steel stockholding and processing £10.27 million (£9.34 million) and spring manufacturing £5.65 million (£4.75 million). Pretax profit £451,000 (£231,000). Earnings per share 2.08p (0.98p).

● MINTY: Total payment 1p (2p) for the year to Jan. 25, 1986.

Turnover £2.87 million (£2.83 million). Pretax loss £156,000 (£246,000). Loss per share 25.25p (36.76p).

● NEW AUSTRALIA INVESTMENT TRUST: Mosskirk (a subsidiary of Keywest Investments of Australia) is making an offer for the ordinary shares other than the 2.08 million (£1.79 per cent) already owned, of 100p cash a share. The offer values the ordinary capital at £5 million.

● FEDEX: Total dividend for 1985 1.5p (0.5p). Turnover £38.06 million (£36.2 million). Pretax profit £904,000 (£205,000). Earnings per share 4.43p (0.83p). The board reports that 1986 has begun well.

● SUNLEIGH ELECTRONICS: The company has bought Blackburn Wound Products, an electrical and electronic engineering company, for 2 million ordinary shares. It has also purchased Cyfus Systems, a subsidiary of FKI Electricals, for 4.5 million ordinary shares.

● CAMBRIDGE ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES: Mr

Rupert Jones, the chairman, told the annual meeting that the first-half results would reflect the sharp fall in orders at the end of 1985. But orders have now stabilized at a relatively low level.

● DUALVEST: Total dividend on income shares of 12.11p (9.98p) for the year to March 31, 1986. Net revenue before tax £1.6 million (£1.32 million).

● FUNDINVEST: Interim dividend 2.67p (2.26p) for the six months to March 31, 1986. Net revenue before tax £472,000 (£411,000).

● WINDSOR SECURITIES HOLDINGS: Half-year to March 31, 1986. Interim dividend 0.2p (0.55p). Turnover £1.18 million (£347,000). Pretax profit on ordinary activities £114,000 (£108,000). Earnings per share 0.73p (0.79p).

● BROWN AND TAWSE: The company has conditionally agreed to purchase Wilcox Engineering Supplies, a division of W H Wilcox, for about £600,000 cash. Wilcox Engineering made a pretax loss of

£34,000 in the year to Sept. 30, 1985.

● JAYPLANT: Agreement has been reached with Mr D H B Holland and Mr J A Nichols for the acquisition by Randsworth, a property offshoot of Jayplant, of Holtvale. The price will be the lower of £350,000 or the market value of the development properties owned by Holtvale. Mr Holland and Mr Nichols are Jayplant directors, so the acquisition is subject to shareholders' approval.

● ROCKS: Agreement has been reached with Gregory and Sutcliffe, a Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, distributor of engineers' consumable supplies, for the purchase of its subsidiary, Fixmodel, for £250,000. Fixmodel has acquired the business, goodwill and trading assets of Gregory and Sutcliffe.

● GLEN ABBEY: The company is to sell its subsidiary, Glen Abbey Belgard, and the buildings it occupies, to that company's management. This is expected to realize more than £650,000.

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Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

| No. | Company | Group | Share to Best |
|-----|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Stavley | Industrials S-Z | |
| 2 | Allied Irish | Banking | |
| 3 | Lovell (TV) | Building, Roads | |
| 4 | House of Lerone | Drapery, Stores | |
| 5 | Hollas | Drapery, Stores | |
| 6 | Countrywide | Building, Roads | |
| 7 | Lynton | Property | |
| 8 | NEI | Electricals | |
| 9 | Morgan Crucible | Industrials L-R | |
| 10 | Stanley (AG) | Drapery, Stores | |
| 11 | Lex | Motors/Aircraft | |
| 12 | Kayburn (A) | Industrials E-K | |
| 13 | St. Clare Auctions | Property | |
| 14 | Channon | Banking, Discount | |
| 15 | Hambro | Banking, Discount | |
| 16 | Castings | Industrials A-D | |
| 17 | Aurora | Industrials A-D | |
| 18 | Search-Search | Paper, Printing | |
| 19 | Grand Met | Hotels, Catering | |
| 20 | Raybeck | Drapery, Stores | |
| 21 | Edith | Industrials E-K | |
| 22 | Anchor Chemical | Chemicals, Plastics | |
| 23 | Telephone Rentals | Electricals | |
| 24 | Babcock | Industrials A-D | |
| 25 | Bridon | Industrials A-D | |
| 26 | Enterprise | Oil | |
| 27 | Oliver (G) | Drapery, Stores | |
| 28 | Scan Greenham | Industrials S-Z | |
| 29 | Avon Rubber | Electricals | |
| 30 | BSR | Electricals | |
| 31 | Bodycote | Industrials A-D | |
| 32 | RFD | Industrials L-R | |
| 33 | IMI | Industrials E-K | |
| 34 | Molins | Industrials L-R | |
| 35 | Ms Int | Industrials L-R | |
| 36 | Wedgwood | Industrials S-Z | |
| 37 | UEI | Electricals | |
| 38 | Nurdin & Parnock | Foods | |
| 39 | Prichard Serv | Industrials L-R | |
| 40 | Logica | Electricals | |
| 41 | Kode | Electricals | |
| 42 | MK Elec | Electricals | |
| 43 | Stachley | Industrials S-Z | |
| 44 | Lox & Pro Shop | Property | |

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £16,000 in today's newspaper.

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | Weekly Total |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| | | | | | | |

BRITISH FUNDS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
| | | | | | | | |

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
| | | | | | | | |

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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UNDATED

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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INDEX-LINKED

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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BANKS DISCOUNT HP

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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ELECTRICALS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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BREWERIES

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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BUILDINGS AND ROADS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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FINANCE AND LAND

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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FOODS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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HOTELS AND CATERERS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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INDUSTRIALS A-D

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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DIAPERY AND STORES

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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CINEMAS AND TV

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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SHIPPING

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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SHOES AND LEATHER

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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TEXTILES

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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TOBACCO

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Recovery collapses

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 28. Dealings ended yesterday. \$Contango day Monday. Settlement day May 19.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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INSURANCE

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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LEISURE

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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MINING

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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PROPERTY

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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SHIPPING

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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SHOES AND LEATHER

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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TEXTILES

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TOBACCO

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MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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OIL

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S-Z

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S-Z

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £16000
WEEKLY DIVIDEND £16000
Claims required for +36 points
Claims required for +177 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OVERSEAS TRADERS

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
|------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|------|
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PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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INSURANCE

| 1986 | High | Low | Best | Price | Change | % | Open |
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FAMILY MONEY/1

Edited by Lorna Bourke

Take care when you cover

INSURANCE

Just how important it is to read and understand the small print on your household insurance policy has been highlighted for some householders who took out contents insurance with the AA.

Two policyholders who insured their home contents with the AA discovered too late in the day that they were not fully covered. The problem lies to some extent in the promotional literature produced to sell the household contents policy. If you do not read or understand the small print you could easily be confused and think you had full contents cover - when, in fact, you may not.

The promotional literature says on the front "full protection" and "no need to calculate the value of all your contents". Yet when two AA HomeSure policyholders were burgled and put in a claim, they were surprised to find their claim had been scaled down to take account of underinsurance.

Now General Accident which administers the AA HomeSure policy is to "take a fresh look at the wording". A General Accident spokesman said: "There was no intention on our part to mislead or deceive policyholders."

But some policyholders have clearly been confused by the claims that the HomeSure policy "cuts the risk of being underinsured" and removes the need to value all contents.

The problem is that the policy is designed only for those with contents up to £25,000. Anyone whose household possessions come to more than this is told to ask for an individual quotation. But some have missed this unobtrusive proviso. But if you do not work out the value of the contents, how do you know if they come to more than £25,000?

The AA concedes that the disgruntled policyholders may have a point and is also considering changing the wording. "In the light of recent comments we have re-examined the material. Whilst the brochure does refer to a limit of £25,000 it could be stressed more clearly that values in excess of this require an individual quotation. Thus, when we reprint the brochure this will be dealt with."

The AA also pointed out that research done before the policy was launched shows that 90 per cent of the population came within the £25,000. The cases of the policyholders who found they were underinsured are being taken up by the loss assessor Roger Freeman. They both had contents worth around £40,000. Both suffered burglaries, and their claims of £15,000 and £9,000 are being contested.

What the insurers are claiming is that only a proportion of their claims should be paid, to take account of the underinsurance. This is common practice with most

'Literature should be much clearer'

household policies and is known as "averaging". If your underinsurance is 50 per cent, say, then only 50 per cent of the claim is paid.

"They fell for the advertising," said Mr Freeman. "They probably realized they had more than £25,000 worth of goods, but they did not think about it. They thought it did not matter as they did not have to decide the sum insured. They probably imagined it was a first loss policy where they were covered up to £25,000 and did not realize that any claim would be scaled down in proportion to the amount they were underinsured."

Take a fresh look at home insurance with



How the AA sells its HomeSure policy

"The policy literature should be much clearer. I'm amazed this should happen with the AA which is such a consumer-orientated organization."

AA Insurance Services was set up in 1967 and now brings in £120 million a year in premiums on the 1.25 million policies sold. The AA HomeSure policy is administered by General Accident but jointly underwritten by GA and Royal Insurance.

People living in the highest of the five rate bands, which includes central London and parts of Birmingham, would pay £116 for basic cover if they lived in a three-bedroom house and £143 for a four-bedroom house. Insurance for accidental loss or damage to jewellery anywhere up to £750 per item costs an extra £15 and accidental damage insurance an extra £33 for the three-bedroom house and £36 for the four-bedroom house.

In the lowest rated areas, including Dorset, the basic rates come down to £38 for a three-bedroom house and £47 for a four-bedroom house.

These premiums cover contents up to £25,000 - no matter if you have just £10,000 worth of goods or £24,999. But anyone topping

the £25,000 must ask for an individual quotation.

But for roughly the same premiums a householder could go to the TSB, which also has a simplified policy relieving the householder of calculating the value of his contents for complete cover with no scaling-down for about the same premiums.

The TSB policy, which is underwritten by Provincial Insurance, sets a minimum sum assured for each house type. Someone in a three-bedroom house in central London would pay £117 and £153 for a flat, town house or semi.

In a rural area such as Dorset the basic premiums would be £36.40 for a three-bedroom terrace house and £47.60 for one with four bedrooms, and £47.60 and £58.80 for a town house, flat or semi.

These sums assured cover up to a total loss of £13,000 for a three-bedroom property and £17,000 for a four-bedroom one. But even if the contents are worth more, when there is a claim for a smaller sum then there is no scaling-down.

And if you take out a TSB mortgage you get a year's free contents insurance.

Vivien Goldsmith

How the bookies will make a few cool millions

GAMBLING

Armchair sportsmen have been in training for some time. The summer season is upon them, and a new intensive spate of watching is heralded by today's two big football matches. It is Cup Final day in England and Scotland, and soon we can expect 21 consecutive nights of the World Cup from Mexico.

For Britain's bookmakers this means big business. The FA Cup Final is football's equivalent of the Grand National. Tens of thousands will be visiting the bookmakers. William Hill expects to take at least £1 million, while Ladbrokes would see even more. "Lots of the betting will be done on the day of the match, despite the risk of the odds changing slightly," says a Ladbrokes spokesman, "so we can't really say." But

Some punters bet on who will score

the company should take in a similar amount.

The money is coming from all over Britain. The battle between Liverpool and Everton has attracted interest from football followers throughout England and Wales, not just Merseyside. The Cup Final is easily the biggest footballing draw for gamblers' money, and the fact that both teams are from the same city this year will, strangely enough, probably increase the money wagered.

Graham Sharp, of William Hill, says: "It's going to be a close match, and it's local. There isn't even a North versus South element, so many people will have a bet to add a little interest."

Football, as we are constantly reminded by the experts, is a funny game. The bets, however, are straightforward compared with some of the arithmetical wizardry contained in racing wagers. You can put money on the result at 90 minutes - win, lose, or draw - or you can try to predict the score. Extra time does not count. Predicting the score inevitably attracts far

longer odds than bets on the outcome.

Another bet for the speculative punter is guessing who will score. The first footballer able to declare that he "just hit it, Brian, and it went in" will make some gamblers very happy this afternoon. Naturally enough, the odds are shorter for forwards and longer for defenders. But the bet is on the first scorer only, second and subsequent goals do not count.

Predicting who will be winning at both full-time and half-time is the nearest you get to the racing double. To win you have to predict correctly which side, if either, will be winning at the end of both periods of play.

Football, however, is relatively staid compared with some of the more exotic bets on offer. You will be relieved to know that, according to Ladbrokes the odds against extra-terrestrial beings landing on Earth in the next 12 months are 250-1. If you believe in the Loch Ness monster, the bookies will wager that neither you nor anyone else can prove its existence within the next year. Their confidence is more brittle this time: the odds are just 100-1. And, of course, who could forget the Papeal enclave of 1976? British bookmakers took us to the world forefront of irreverence by offering odds on who would succeed Pope Paul.

You can bet on whether the FT 30-Share or American Dow Jones indices will go up or down. Both IG Index and Ladbrokes offer that bet, which some serious investors use as a hedge to protect their portfolios. IG Index will also bet on the date of the next general election (October 22 to November 19, 1987, are the favourite days) and the number of seats the major parties will have.

One practical tip if you do decide to risk your money at the bookmakers: pay the betting tax beforehand, especially on longer-odds bets. Tax is paid on the stake, or the winnings, if there any. So if you do win you should save yourself money.

Martin Baker

Right now, where is the best place to invest £2,000 or more?

A pertinent question since city brokers can't agree whether the stock market is going to continue going up or about to decline. Some find shares "overpriced" and others "under". Meanwhile, interest rates at banks and building societies tumble.

So where should you most sensibly invest your money? We offer an answer: the Scottish Equitable Performance Bond.

It's better than a building society because the rate of return can be so much more. And better than the usual unit trust because you benefit from dual management, from Scottish Equitable's own fund managers who successfully control assets of over £1.8 billion and from Towry Law who review performance regularly.

They choose between 12 funds and switch between them at no cost.

This partnership has achieved a very commendable 23½% growth since launch six months ago.

And you set your own level of income. Indeed higher rate tax payers can take 7½% out annually without personal tax.

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LICENSED DEALERS IN SECURITIES

In the years ahead will your pension plan keep pace with Life?

British National

| Pension Fund | One Year | Two Years | Three Years |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| International | 1st
UP 100.8% | 1st
UP 126.6% | 1st
UP 184.4% |
| Equity | 4th
UP 56.3% | 3rd
UP 110.2% | 3rd
UP 207.0% |
| Managed | 2nd
UP 57.4% | 4th
UP 82.6% | 3rd
UP 128.0% |
| Fixed Interest | 13th
UP 26.2% | 5th
UP 44.8% | 5th
UP 68.5% |

Figures from Money Management "Snapshot", percentages are the offer to offer unit price growth over the three years up to April 1st 1986 and the position each British National Life Fund attained compared to the performance of other sector funds. Remember unit prices can fall as well as rise.

Deciding on a pension plan means that you have to select a fund which will perform well in future years. Consider British National Life Assurance, one of the pioneers in the field, whose performance Money Management magazine recently described as "remarkably consistent." Check for yourself: over a three year period our four main pension funds have never been out of the top five in a field of 216 competitors.

Just one reason why Citicorp, one of the largest financial institutions in the world, brought British National Life into the Citicorp group just three months ago. It's a potent combination for your pension plan: proven investment performance backed by Citicorp, an innovative leader in financial services, with assets of over £120 billion.

A pension plan is exceptionally attractive since pension funds are free of all income, capital gains and corporation taxes. There is probably no better way to increase the value of your capital than investing in your own future pension. British National Life has a range of plans to suit your particular needs.

SELF-EMPLOYED? YOU NEED PLAN-FOR-RETIREMENT

A self-employed person (or an individual in non-pensionable employment) can make payments up to 17.5% of net relevant earnings into a Plan-for-Retirement and receive tax relief at the highest tax rate paid. The Plan is fully portable and payments can be varied to suit your needs in future years. On retirement, part of the individual's entitlement can be taken as a tax-free lump sum.

Life
British National

COMPANY DIRECTOR? YOU NEED PLAN-FOR-EXECUTIVES

As a company director you can set up a Plan for yourself (and your key executives) which attracts full Corporation Tax relief on company contributions and relief at the highest level of tax paid for individual contributions. The Plan offers portability for the individual and flexibility for the company; contributions can be increased when profit is available in a tax efficient manner.

PAST PENSION BENEFITS? YOU NEED PLAN-FOR-PENSION PRESERVATION

Do you have benefits from past jobs which have simply been left "frozen"? Perhaps relatively small sums which were based on your salary at that time but no longer match your future needs. Chances are that your former employer has not even allowed for the effects of inflation. British National Life's Plan gives the opportunity for real growth.

Don't delay your pension planning; every year that goes by without action decreases your pension potential.

I am particularly interested in:
☐ Self-employed pension
☐ Company director pension
☐ Consolidating past benefits (if please tick)
 Please send me further information

Name _____
 Occupation _____
 Address _____
 Post Code _____
 Business Telephone No. _____

Send to: British National Life Assurance Company Limited, FREEPOST
 Harward Heath RH16 3EA Telephone: Harward Heath (0444) 414111

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ACADEMY INSURANCE BROKERS Private Managed Funds PORTFOLIO TO SUCCESS!

Has your investment doubled in under 2 years?

Clients who invested in the first Academy fund launched 11 June 1984 in conjunction with a leading Scottish Life Company have now seen their capital double in 22 months. Whilst it must be remembered that unit prices can fall as well as rise the Academy Fund Managers are confident that new opportunities for growth will continue to present themselves.

Example: Investment: £5,000 + Bonus £50
 + Growth £5,580 = £10,630 (offer to offer price)
 9 months 11 days + other funds complete the coupon
 & send for free brochure

ACADEMY INSURANCE BROKERS, 55-57 Watergate Row, Chester, Ch1 2LE. INVESTMENT DIVISION LTD. Tel: 0244-411223

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

Send your child to public school for only 30% of the fees.

You could hardly give your child a better start than by looking to The Equitable Life.

Because our new School Fee Trust Plans make providing for your child's education realistic.

For example, eight annual contributions totalling £14,959 could, at the end of that period, provide £50,301 worth of school fees* over the following ten years.

That's a saving to you of 70%.

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SPORT



Davis (left) reflects on what might have been as Johnson pots on towards the world championship last night

Johnson
defies
odds to
win

By Sydney Friskin

Before the start of the Embassy world snooker championship at Sheffield, Joe Johnson, of Bradford, had little more than a pocketful of money — £70,000 for winning the 1986 title after beating Steve Davis 18-17 in the final last night.

As a 150-1 outsider in the early quotations, Johnson brought about the most unpredictable result for several years, which is an outstanding achievement for a man who turned professional in 1979, having before that earned his living as a motor mechanic and an employee of a gas board.

Davis, whose attempt to win the title for the fourth time was frustrated, tried unsuccessfully to loosen the grip which Johnson had taken at the start of the day, but although Davis played a number of brilliant shots he probably knew that he was up against a relentless scoring machine moving in top gear and in the right direction.

Nothing seemed too difficult for Johnson. He potted shots with a precision and

The Times 6th May 1986.

If they were unit trusts, we would still recommend the one who lost.

Performances in sport and investment are not entirely dissimilar.

Take the case of Joe Johnson, the man who dramatically lifted the World Snooker crown, a hitherto 150-1 outsider.

On the face of it, he would seem to have been an astute investment.

Indeed, paralleling the world of sport, a fund can often come from nowhere to top the investment league.

Ironically, many of the funds that top the league fail to maintain their momentum. In fact, in the last five years, the highest placed unit trust has failed to reach even the top 200 in its subsequent year.

It's easy to be seduced by the success of one dazzling fund. A phenomenon used by some companies to suggest their shrewd investment skills.

The picture they paint, we feel, is



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In the real world of investment there are no short cuts or easy answers.

Because for every Joe Johnson there's a score of Joe Soaps.

*Source: Money Management.

FAMILY MONEY/2

Loan war heats up, rates cool down

Home loan rates look set to fall still further during the summer months, according to the latest research carried out by *Blay's Mortgage Guide*. "Competition is intense, with some of the large foreign banks such as Citibank charging 10.75 per cent," says *Blay's*. "Other banks and insurance companies have introduced a fixed rate for a year - for instance, Cannon Assurance 10.5 per cent, Eagle Star 10.75 per cent and Chemical Bank 10.5 per cent. Others have introduced flexible payment schemes."

However, borrowers should be cautious about some of the schemes as they are in some instances endowment-linked only, and the policies to which the loan is linked are not necessarily the best on the market. Probably the best deal now is the Midland Bank's offer of loan money for house purchase or remortgage at 10.5 per

cent for the first year. Those transferring a loan will get the expenses of the transfer paid by Midland.

Details of rates from: *Blay's Guides Ltd*, Churchfield Road, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 9EW (Gerrards Cross BR4417).

Town hall haggle

There are not many taxes which you can haggle about but rates come into that category. If you think your rates are too high you can contest them and reductions are by no means uncommon. The Consumers' Association has just issued its Rates Money Saving Kit giving step-by-step instructions on how to apply for a reduction on your rates bill. On average, home owners pay around £300 a year and as much as £520 in London. A reduction, if you are successful, runs on year after year. The kit also covers rebates. Copies of the kit at £4.95 can be obtained from the Consumers' Association, 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2N 8DS.



RBS goes gold

It's only a matter of time before one of the high street banks starts to offer interest on your ordinary current account. In the meantime, the next best thing is the high interest account, the latest version of which has just been launched by Royal Bank of Scotland. RBS's instant access Gold Deposit Account pays 8.25 per cent net of basic rate tax for investments of £2,000 or more. These high interest accounts have largely superseded the old seven-day deposit account except where the investor cannot meet the minimum deposit

requirements. Seven-day deposit accounts are paying only 4.75 per cent.

No notice is required to withdraw funds from the Gold Deposit Account but if you let the balance fall below £2,000 you are heavily penalized on the interest rate - it drops to 2 per cent below the RBS seven-day deposit rate, which currently works out at a miserable 2.75 per cent. Full details are available from branches of Royal Bank of Scotland or you can write to RBS, 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh E2 2YB.

Two wind-ups

Readers who put money with two companies called New Hampshire Investment Ltd and Global Guaranty Life Assurance Company SA will be interested to know that steps have been taken to have them both compulsorily wound up. The Department of Trade and Industry says this action is "expedient in the public interest", using powers under the Companies Act 1985. Both companies were registered

overseas and used mailing lists to send brochures to UK citizens inviting investments.

According to the department, New Hampshire invited investments into a range of investment bonds, while Global Guaranty offered investment in a range of insurance and building society-linked products. About £154,000 was received by the companies from investors by the beginning of last month through an agent in Southampton. The department says cannot give the name of the agent at the moment and that no action is currently being taken against him individually. The department says it cannot even reveal why it is taking such drastic action against both companies.

It wants inquiries from creditors to go to the Official Receiver, DTI, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD (01-583 8931). We should also be interested in hearing from readers with experience of either of the above two companies.

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How you buy discounts

SHARES

Tony Doyle, an actor, and his wife Sally are renovating a ramshackle old house in Brittany. They like spending Easter and most of the summer in France. But carting their three small children, Lucy, Joe and Sam, across the Channel in a car large enough to take buggies, bikes, beds and high chairs, was becoming a major expense.

About 18 months ago Tony bought shares in European Ferries, the company that runs the Townsend Thoresen cross-Channel ferries. He bought just 300 preference shares, the minimum needed to qualify for the discount on the ferries. The shares cost £110 each, a total of £330. Already they have paid for themselves.

Sally and Tony go on the long crossing from Portsmouth to Cherbourg where they get 40 per cent off their fare. (The more normal Dover-Calais route is half price). So far they have used the concession four times and saved around £400.

This year with another two trips planned they will save another £200. In the meantime, if they want to sell their European Ferries shares, they are now worth £600 each.

In 1988, European Ferries are increasing the number of preference shares needed to qualify for the full cross-Channel concession from 300

to 600. Unless the shares have risen to really heady heights, the Doyles say they are inclined to increase their shareholding. If they don't buy those extra shares, they will still be entitled to cut-price cross-Channel fares, but the concession will be reduced to half the current level.

Shares in British Telecom and European Ferries are probably the two best-known perks for shareholders. In fact the British Telecom telephone voucher was only an incentive to get small investors to buy British Telecom shares when they went public in November 1984.

In the end, such was the scramble for the shares that they would have sold without the vouchers and there is no sign that British Telecom is going to repeat the perk.

There are about 110 companies offering discounts or special offers to their shareholders. With just a few rare

Pick the companies that will succeed

exceptions, like European Ferries, shareholder perks should never be the sole reason for buying a share. No one ever got rich by choosing shares by the cut of their perks.

It is a much better policy to go for companies which you think are going to do well, and if they then shower you with

presents, that is an added bonus.

There are other exceptions to this general rule. For example, anyone about to install a child's car seat could buy just one share in BSG International, and get 50 per cent off all Britax safety seats. The stockbroker's commission would be £15, much more expensive than the cost of one share at around 40p, but in total still less than half the cost of a child's safety seat.

Other concessions range from Allied Lyons' wallet of special money-off vouchers for their restaurants and off-licenses, and a discount on a new Barratt home, to 20 per cent off Christmas hampers from Park Food.

The qualifications can be just one share, and cheap - and in the case of BSG International and Peters Stores where all shareholders get a 15 per cent discount in their 75 stores. Or it could prove expensive, as in the case of the Southampton IOW and South of England Packet where you need 2,400 shares at around 300p each to get a free passenger pass on the Southampton to Cowes crossing. At Asprey you would need 1,124 shares at 538p to get the 15 per cent discount.

And then there are the oddities and the most highly-sought perks, such as the almost impossible to buy debentures in the All England



The Doyles are off to France: New their shares ease the burden

Tennis Club which entitles you to Centre Court seats at Wimbledon. A £500 debenture costs around £16,500.

Brewers, hotel groups, and chain stores are the most generous towards their shareholders. A company like Marks & Spencer has always held out against offering shareholders any special perks. There is the view that once a company starts wooing its shareholders with free handouts, it is the time to sell the shares.

So why do some companies offer perks? Burton has operated a shareholders' discount scheme for some time. Philip Smith, Burton's assistant secretary says: "We introduced the scheme in 1979 to celebrate Burton's 50th anniversary

as a public company. We wanted to do something to reward our shareholders for their loyalty and faith in us. And once introduced, you can't then withdraw it. We don't actually know how much it costs us, because it has never been worth our while to

Lists are revised once a year

account for it separately, but we have the impression that it isn't much, and that only about one in 10 shareholders takes advantage of it."

Seymour, Pierce & Co and Kleinwort Greaveson are two brokers which compile lists of shareholder concessions. The Seymour, Pierce list costs £1.50 and is available from 10

Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA. The Kleinwort Greaveson list is free to anyone who sends in a large stamped addressed envelope to PO Box 191, 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 3LB.

The lists are revised once a year. Sometimes they miss one or two of the small USM and Over-the-Counter shares.

For example, Airstrip Industries will take shareholders up in their new scheduled airship trip round London for £50 rather than £100. The wine merchant, Jacques Mathiot

Wine which trades on Afor's OTC market, gives a 10 per cent discount off wholesale prices to anyone with more than 3,000 shares, now changing hands at around 63p.

Anthea Masey

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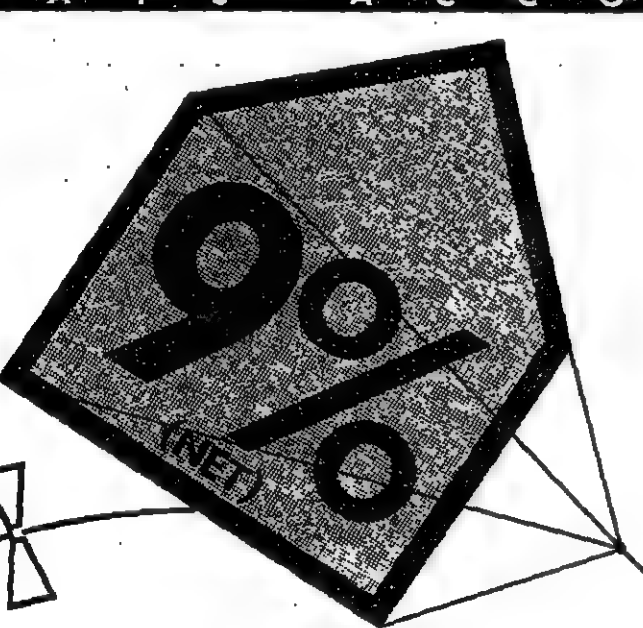
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Law Report May 10 1986

Death before order executed is no ground of appeal

Barder v Barder

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Lord Justice Woolf.

[Judgment given May 9]

Where there was a "clean break" order by consent for financial provision in matrimonial proceedings, the death of one party before the order was executed after the expiry of the time limit for appeal, did not of itself justify granting leave to appeal out of time.

The Court of Appeal so held, Lord Justice Dillon dissenting, allowing an appeal by the intervenor, Jacqueline Florence Calcutt, from Judge Smith's decision at Basingstoke County Court on November 15, 1985, who allowed the application by the husband, David Donald Peter Barder, for leave to appeal and allowed his appeal against a consent order dated February 20, 1985 of Mr Registrar Fuller, for the transfer to the wife, Christina Sandra Barder, of the husband's interest in the former matrimonial home.

Mr Joseph Jackson, QC and Mr Jeremy Tatham for the appellant Mr Alan Ward, QC and Mr H. J. Shaw for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON, dissenting, said that the husband and wife were married in 1976 and had two children born in 1976 and 1978. The matrimonial home was owned by the parties jointly, subject to mortgages.

The marriage broke down and the wife presented a petition for divorce in February 1984, claiming also ancillary relief. It was founded on adultery by the husband with another woman whom he had since married.

The decree absolute was pronounced in September 1984. The husband left the matrimonial home where the wife remained with the children. Care and control of the children was awarded to the wife with reasonable access to the husband.

The case was appropriate for clean-break financial provisions, and after negotiations a consent order was made on February 20, 1985. It was expressed to be in full and final settlement of all claims made or capable of being made by the parties against each other.

It provided that the husband should within 28 days transfer to the wife all his legal and equitable interest in the house and the proceeds of sale thereof and in the contents. The wife undertook that on transfer she would redeem the mortgages. There were also undertakings as to certain life policies held by the husband and the husband was ordered to pay periodic payments to the children.

The husband had five days to appeal against that order but did not.

On March 25, 1985 the wife killed both the children and committed suicide. Although the time limit of 28 days had expired, the order was still not executed.

On April 23, 1985 the husband issued a notice in the county court for leave to appeal out of time against the order and the wife's mother was given leave to intervene to oppose the application.

The judge gave leave to appeal, allowed the appeal and

held that the order ought to be set aside because its basis had been vitiated by a fundamental mistake, common to both parties, namely that for an appreciable period the wife and children would continue to live and benefit from the terms of the order.

However, the judge misdirected himself in that line of reasoning. The common mistake had to be a mistake as to existing facts at the date of the contract, and of that there was none.

It was not enough to bring the doctrine of common mistake into play that there was a common failure to predict correctly future events.

However, his Lordship did agree with the judge that the husband ought in those rare and exceptional circumstances to have leave to appeal out of time against the order.

In the light of the unforeseen events which happened so soon afterwards, the judge was right to reconsider the order and was entitled to take into account events which had occurred since the order.

The supervening tragedy was wholly unrelated to the making of the order. If in fact the transfer had been executed within the 28 days there could not have been any justifiable basis for leave to appeal.

The executory nature of the order was comparable with the order to execute a judgment. The death of the wife did not in itself afford any ground for appealing against the consent order and in the circumstances there was no ground upon which the judge could have granted leave to appeal.

There was no "respondent" upon whom to serve the notice. The matrimonial cause had terminated.

His Lordship could not agree with Lord Justice Dillon and would allow the appeal on the basis that the judge did not have jurisdiction to grant leave to appeal out of time.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that there was no requirement that the wife and children should occupy the house and if before her death the wife had given the house away, the husband would not have had any right to claim it.

The position was not altered because of the unexpected circumstances which brought the occupation to an end.

Once leave to appeal was given the court could look at the circumstances as they then existed, namely with the knowledge of the deaths. The order would then obviously have to be set aside.

The mistake was treating the issue of leave to appeal and the result of the appeal as the same question and therefore the appeal should be allowed.

Solicitors: Wood, Nash & Winter; Thomson Snell & Passmore, Tunbridge Wells.

Solicitors gain rights in Supreme Court

Practice Direction (Solicitors: Rights of Audience)

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Kennedy in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court on May 9 read the following practice direction signed by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, Lord Lane, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, and Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division.

"In addition to the cases in which solicitors already have rights of audience in the Supreme Court, and without prejudice to the discretion of a judge

to allow a solicitor to represent his client in open court in an emergency, a solicitor may appear in the Supreme Court in formal or unopposed proceedings, that is to say, those proceedings where—(a) by reason of agreement between the parties there is no need for any argument; and (b) the court will not be called upon to exercise a discretion.

"A solicitor may also represent his client in the Supreme Court where judgments are delivered in open court following a hearing in chambers at which that solicitor conducted the case for his client."

Check your overall total against The Times Portfolio dividend published on the Stock Exchange Prices page.

If your overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that day and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to play - Weekly Dividend

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53772 between 10.00am and 3.30pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated time.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

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High-tech explosion leads to four engine blow-ups in a row

From John Blunsden, Monte Carlo

Computer technology has transformed grand prix racing, enabling calculations which previously took hours or even days to accomplish to be completed in seconds, sometimes in microseconds. Everything from suspension movement to ignition timing, from turbo-charger boost pressure to fuel consumption can be monitored simultaneously and the appropriate checks and adjustments made instantly.

It has been described as a computer buff's paradise; but occasionally it can turn into a nightmare, as the Canon Williams team discovered on Thursday.

On the first day of practice and qualifying for tomorrow's Monaco Grand Prix they experienced four engine blow-ups in quick succession, which left Nelson Piquet languishing in thirteenth place on the provisional starting grid and Nigel Mansell only 22nd in the list of times, which means that he has yet to qualify for the 20-car race.

The cause of it has been traced to a chip - the wrong chip - which resulted in the engines running too leanly, overheating and breaking pistons.

Having diagnosed the problem, the team can be expected to bounce back strongly in today's final qualifying and to secure their customary places near the front of the grid. If the weather remains dry, that is.

Williams are not the first team to suffer from computer-induced hiccup. Marlboro McLaren lost both their cars from this year's opening race in Brazil with an identical engine failure provoked by a fault in the engine management system. At least Williams and Honda can be consoled that they discovered their problems before rather than during the race.

Given dry conditions, everyone can be expected to improve on their Thursday times today if only because the Monaco circuit invariably becomes faster as the weekend develops and more rubber is laid on the track surface.

Underneath has proved to be the Achilles' heel for most teams and overcoming it usually means adopting what one senior engineer described to me as "a set of fairly unhappy compromises". It is all a matter of balance. "Around here", he added, "if you get the front working right, sure as hell you're going to give

something away at the back."

And that usually means sacrificing traction - a vital ingredient in a fast lap time on a slow circuit. This is where Ferrari, in particular, have been suffering during qualifying.

Olivetti Brabham are beginning to climb back into contention, radical new cars, a new exhaust system and some reworking of turbo equipment down the left side of the car having taken them about 50 per cent towards where they should be, according to the chief designer, Gordon Murray.

Meanwhile, Ayrton Senna will be difficult to displace this afternoon from his fourth consecutive pole position of the season with his JPS Lotus. His two qualifying runs on Thursday were far from perfect (his own words), which suggests that a lap in under 1 minute 24 seconds is within his capability.

At the other end of the field a place anywhere on the starting grid must be the main target and this could well require a lap time of no more than 1 minute 27.5 seconds - a standard which so far only 12 drivers have managed to attain.

YACHTING

Swiss scales sailor's Everest

By Barry Pickthall

Pierre Fehlmann, the lake sailor from Morges in Switzerland, yesterday achieved the goal he set himself 11 years ago - to win the Whitbread Round the World race, a 27,000-mile classic, long regarded as being the sailor's Everest.

Sailing the 80-foot Bruce Farr-designed maxi UBS Switzerland, Fehlmann and his crew of 18 crossed the finish line off Portsmouth under spinnaker in flying style, rousing cheers, horn blasts and the clattering of cow bells shortly after 9.40 yesterday morning to set a record for the voyage of 117 days 14 hours 31 minutes, clipping 2 days 16 hours off the previous best time set by Dutch yacht Flyer four years ago.

The countdown has begun to see if the smaller French yacht L'Esprit d'Equipe, skippered by Lionel Plan, which is almost certain to win the Whitbread Trophy for the best handicap time, can also finish on a high note by winning the 6,000-mile final stage from Punta del Este, Uruguay, on corrected time.

Yesterday's computer predictions placed the Swiss maxi ahead of the 14-strong fleet on handicap but L'Esprit d'Equipe has until shortly after midnight on Tuesday to complete the final 850 miles, an average of 7.7 knots - by no means an impossible task.

For Fehlmann this was his third attempt at winning the race. In 1976 he sailed the Swan 65 Disque d'Or into fourth place on handicap, a feat repeated in the following event four years later with the 58-foot Farr-designed Disque d'Or III, which had been built to win handicap honours.

"After that race I realized the boat was too small and went home determined to build a larger boat to win honours in this race," he said.

On the first leg to Cape Town the crew lost three days wallowing in the doldrums but went on to take line honours after the American-registered leader, Portan (transatlantic Privateer) was dismantled, and the second-placed Belgian maxi, Cote d'Or, sustained hull damage.

During the second stage through the Southern Ocean to Australia the UBS crew stayed too far north and as a result finished third, two hours behind Atlantic Privateer and NZI Enterprise. The Swiss crew made no such mistakes on the third leg round Cape Horn, leading as they did on this stage, from start to finish and breaking all records as they went.

As UBS arrived in Portsmouth Simon Le Bon's crew on Drum were fighting it out for second place between Cote d'Or, Lion New Zealand and Atlantic Privateer. 500 miles astern, promising a close finish tomorrow.

ATHLETICS

A big test for Coe and Ovett in the long run

By Pat Batchelor

Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, the middle-distance mainstays of British and international athletics during the last decade, are making moves up to 5,000 metres this summer. And in races this weekend they will get a close look at Steve Harris and Paul Davies-Hale, the young but stern British opposition for them at that longer distance.

Coe, whose switch to 5,000 metres is more tentative than Ovett's, will study Harris from the safety of the stands at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham, where the GB Athletics League division one match takes place. For Coe runs his double Olympic gold medal distance of 1,500 metres as a season's track opener while Harris makes an attempt on the league 5,000 metres record of 13min 49.6sec which John Davies, the steeplechaser, has held since 1974.

Ovett should get a much closer look at Davies-Hale, since they will both be among the front-runners in the International Athletics Club eight-kilometre road race, sponsored by Guymer's Ryder, through the streets of Oxford tomorrow afternoon.

After a road mile victory in Leeds, in February the teams met in the challenge cup, and on a treacherous frozen surface, the middle-distance men, Ovett and Harris, were thoroughly beaten.

Similarly, Leeds are quite happy to be going to Halifax next week to face Wigan or Warrington, although the Headingley side have a habit, well developed in trophy competitions over the years, of coming from behind to snatch victory and they may well prevent Halifax, the champions, from tilting at the double.

In the other semi-final, at Central Park, Warrington will be hoping to end a run of eight matches against Wigan without a win. In Les Boyd, the Australian, and Kevin Tamati, the New Zealander, Warrington have two of the most uncompromising and tough forwards in the game.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Leeds are in mood to repeat

By Keith Macklin

Had Halifax been given a choice of opponents in this weekend's semi-finals of the Slalom Lager premiership, they would surely not have chosen Leeds. In February the teams met in the challenge cup, and on a treacherous frozen surface, the middle-distance men, Ovett and Harris, were thoroughly beaten.

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TENNIS



Hair-raising service: Martina Navratilova clenching her teeth as she clinches victory over Susan Mascarin in Tokyo

Public ignore the computer fodder

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Kumiko Okamoto, of Osaka, aged 21, will play Natalie Zvereva, of Minsk, aged 15, in the women's singles final of the Lawn Tennis Association tournament at Bournemouth today.

Matches like that have been happening all the time during a five-week circuit that has served as an interim examination for aspiring professionals but has been a non-event for the public.

The circuit will end at Lee-on-Solent next week, when the 16 leading men will contest a "Masters" tournament and 32 women will take part in an upgraded event carrying £17,837 in prize money. Both the series will also be striving for results that, once digested by the relevant computers, could improve the players' world rankings.

The 16 men at Lee will include a respectable contingent of six British players: Stuart Bale, Jonathan Smith, Mike Walker, Andrew Castle, Stephen Boileau and Jonathan Southcombe. The British women engaged will be Sally Reeves, Joanne Louis, Julie Salomon, two wild card (invited) competitors, Jane Wood and Belinda Borneo, and possibly one or two qualifiers.

Miss Zvereva has contested a semi-final and two finals in consecutive weeks. Even at this modest level, that is good going for a slim last of 15. Yesterday she had a 6-2, 6-2 win over Pascale Etchemendy, of Biarritz.

The men's semi-finals featured Patrick Flynn, of Brisbane, aged 17, and the winners of the three previous tournaments: Thierry Pham (France), Danyal Masoudor (South Africa) and Gildas Bloom (Israel). Pham is now a better player than Flynn. He is almost seven years wiser. Pham won 6-1, 6-1.

Masoudor had a nasty cold when Bloom beat him in a semi-final last week. Yesterday Masoudor's 12st 7lb was in better condition and he beat Bloom 7-6, 6-3 in a match that would have done justice to the early rounds of those more distinguished Bournemouth tournaments of 20 years ago.

RESULTS: Women's singles, quarter-finals: P. Etchemendy (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; S. Reeves (GB) to J. Salomon (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

THIRD ROUND: L. Smith (GB) to A. Castle (GB) 6-2, 6-2; V. Noth (Fr) to P. Masoudor (SA) 6-2, 6-2; P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

FOURTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

FIFTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

SIXTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

SEVENTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

EIGHTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

NINTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

TENTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

ELEVENTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

Twelfth Round: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

Thirteenth Round: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

FOURTEENTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

FIFTEENTH ROUND: P. Pham (Fr) to P. Zvereva (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J. Wood (GB) to B. Borneo (GB) 6-2, 6-2; J. Louis (GB) to S. Bale (GB) 6-2, 6-2.

Saturday

Weekend television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

Sunday

- BBC 1**
- 6.45 Open University. Unit 1.55.
- 6.50 The Saturday Picture Show introduced by Mark Curry and Cheryl Curry. The programme includes new girl Louise Miller finding out what television producers have to do to look good on screen.
- 10.05 Film: The Pink Panther (1964) starring Peter Sellers, David Niven and Robert Wagner. The first and best of the comedy films about the incompetent Parisian policeman, Inspector Clouseau. Directed by Blake Edwards.
- 12.00 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. A Cup Final Special with live coverage of the game at Wembley between Liverpool and Everton, and reports from Hampden Park where Hearts play Aberdeen. Included in the build-up to the 3.00 kick off are a host of guests giving their views on the Merseyside battle, including a frank and free discussion between Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones; neutral input, Al Garnett; and a detailed analysis of the game from Elton Terry Venables. Racing enthusiasts are catered for by coverage of the two Classics trials at Lingfield - the Marley Road (12.30); and the Highland Spring Derby Trial Stakes (1.00). News summary and weather at 12.50.
- 5.15 The Pink Panther Show. (V)
- 5.35 News with Jan Leeming. Weather. 5.45
- 5.50 Sport/regional news. The Keith Harris Show. The first of a new series. The guests are singers Nana Mouskouri and Logan; aerial gymnast Kassio Pappas; and mind-reader Graham P. Jolley. (Ceefax)
- 6.30 Every Second Counts. Comedy quiz show.
- 7.00 Sorry! The first of a new comedy series starring Ronnie Corbett as the mother-dominated, middle-aged, middle-aged, middle-aged.
- 7.30 The Battle of Midway (1977) starring Charlton Heston, Henry Ford, James Coburn and Glenn Ford. The dramatized reconstruction of one of the celebrated sea battles of the Second World War. Directed by Jack Smight. (Ceefax)
- 8.40 News and sport. With Jan Leeming. Weather.
- 9.55 Cagney and Lacey. A drunken driving case in which a young baby is a victim brings the heavily pregnant Mary Beth back on the scene. (Ceefax)
- 10.45 Match of the Day. Jimmy Hill presents highlights of the afternoon's F.A. Cup Final.
- 11.35 Film: Phase IV (1974) starring Nigel Davenport. A science fiction thriller about a remote Arizona research station threatened by marauding aliens. Directed by Saul Bass.
- 12.55 Weather.

- TV-AM**
- 6.55 Good Morning Britain. Introduced by Mike Morris. News at 7.00; regional report at 7.08; sport at 7.15.
- 7.30 The Wide Awake Club includes news at 8.25.
- ITV/LONDON**
- 9.25 Get Fresh! Fun and games, pop videos, competitions, and the start of a new high-tech serial. 11.30 Terrahawks. 12.00 News.
- 12.05 The FA Cup Final. Live coverage of the match at Wembley between Everton and Liverpool. The match begins at 3.00 but beforehand: a bumper between Saint and Greaves at the Champion Bar; 12.15 the team managers are interviewed; at various times from 12.20 Jimmy Tarbuck introduces his showbiz friends; 12.25 meet the teams; 12.50 with the teams as they leave their respective hotels; 1.00 the Manager of the Year Awards; 1.10 Brian Moore recalls earlier cup finals; 1.40 the arrival of the teams at Wembley; 2.10 Wrestling from Heslar Community Centre; 2.50 the teams are presented to the Duchess of Kent; 3.00 Kick-off. 4.40 Final whistle.
- 5.15 News. 5.30 The Sports. (r)
- 5.35 Robin of Sherwood. Much and Will Scarlet are separated from the rest of the Merry Men after a successful robbery and take refuge in the company of a fanatical monk, Abbot Martin.
- 6.30 The Play. Jeremy Beckett and Barbara Dickson try to decipher children's descriptions.
- NB: If the Cup Final runs to extra time, the show will be cut down to 5.45. News: 5.50. 6.00 Robin of Sherwood.
- 7.00 Cannon and Ball. Tommy and Bobby in more recent situations.
- 7.30 The Price Is Right. Game show.
- 8.30 Tarby and Friends. Jimmy Tarbuck's guests are John Schneider, Norman Collier and Stan Boardman.
- 8.15 C.A.T.S. Eyes. A British criminal, serving a 20 year sentence in a South African prison, is released and sent back to England because he is terminally ill.
- 10.15 News and sport.
- 10.30 The Late Late Show. The guests are Charlotte Rampling and Alan Coran.
- 11.15 LWT News headlines.
- 11.30 The Escape from Alcatraz. A science fiction thriller, set in 1957, when Manhattan has been turned into a walled prison. One of the inmates has a chance to earn his freedom when he is given 24 hours in which to rescue the kidnapped President. Directed by John Carpenter.
- 1.00 Highway Patrol. In tribute to the late Broderick Crawford, an episode entitled The Prison Break.
- 1.25 Night Thoughts.



Dorothy Tutin, in this week's episode of Robin of Sherwood (ITV, 5.35pm). And Robin Corbett Sorry (BBC, 1.7.00pm)

- BBC 2**
- 6.50 Open University. Unit 1.55.
- 7.05 Film: The Buccaneers (1938) starring Fredric March. The story of the celebrated pirate, Jean Lafitte, set at the time in 1814 when the British are planning to attack New Orleans. They offer Lafitte a handsome reward if he allows his private power on the side of the invaders, but Lafitte is torn between accepting the huge payment or assisting his beleaguered countrymen. Directed by Cecil B. De Mille.
- 4.05 Film: Tempest (1958) starring Van Hellen and Silvana Mangano. Period drama about a young soldier, banished to an isolated Russian garrison by Catherine the Great, who saves the life of a man while on his way to his remote posting. The rescued man turns out to be Pugachev, a ruthless pretender to the Czar's throne. Directed by Alberto Lattuada.
- 6.00 Laramie. Jess Harper is being threatened by ranchers who believe he is a cattle rustler. Only an old friend, a member of the real rustling gang, can save him. Starring Robert Fuller, John Smith and Rod Cameron. (r)
- 6.50 NewsView. Jan Leeming with the day's news. Mike Stuart reviews the week's news in pictures with subtitles. Weather.
- 7.30 Around With Alissa. Peter Alissa's guest over selected holes of the New Zealand Golf Club. Weybridge, is former Test captain and President of the Berwickshire. An LSO Trust Gala Concert in the presence of The Queen and Prince Philip. Bernstein conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in three of his own works, Chichester Psalms, Age of Anxiety, and Serranade. The soloists are: Alan Jones, treble, Gidon Kremer, violin, and Krystian Zimerman, piano.
- 8.55 The Monty Python Golden Movie. Highlights of the pop video event, introduced by Mike Smith from the Casino Monteux, Switzerland. Ends at 11.35.
- CHANNEL 4**
- 1.10 Eco. A Worldwide 86 programme in which Dr Alice Stewart, who, 30 years ago warned that x-rayed pregnant women could cause cancer in their unborn children, and is still engaged on public safety issues, talks about a controversial career.
- 1.35 Birds of Britain. Garden birds. (r)
- 2.00 Film: Rose of Washington Square (1939) starring Tyrone Power, Al Jolson and Alice Faye. Jolson stars as an entertainer who befriends a struggling singer with a gangster boyfriend. Directed by Gregory Ratoff.
- 3.35 Film: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly (1966) starring Clint Eastwood, Lee Remick, and Eli Wallach. A classic Western about two friends who sort out the love life of two other people. Directed by Sergio Leone.
- 5.05 Brookside. (r) (Oracle)
- 6.00 The IBA's family friendly policy is being consistently flouted say two critics. The IBA's family friendly policy is being consistently flouted say two critics. The IBA's family friendly policy is being consistently flouted say two critics.
- 6.30 News summary and weather followed by Credo. New evidence about how religious are the British people.
- 7.30 Africa. Part three of Basil Davidson's series examines the story of the camel caravans which brought gold from Mali to the Mediterranean coast.
- 8.30 Held in Trust. Diana Ridge continues her exploration of properties run by the National Trust for Scotland with visits to some of those along the River Tay. (Oracle)
- 9.00 Mapp and Lucia. Mapp does nothing to dampen the rumour that she is expecting a baby. (Oracle)
- 10.00 Hill Street Blues. A baby is abandoned in a squad car and the precinct officers lose their hearts to the little while the mother is being traced. (Oracle)
- 11.00 Film: Freud - The Secret Passion (1962) starring Montgomery Clift, Susanam York and Eric Portman. A biography of the psychoanalyst concentrating on the five years he was treating a hysterical young patient giving rise to his theories of neurosis and their subconscious sexual connections. Directed by John Huston. Ends at 1.15.

- BBC 1**
- 6.45 Open University. Unit 1.55.
- 6.55 Play School. 9.15 Knock Knock. Religious stories and songs for the young. (r) 9.30 This is the Day. A simple service from a viewer's home in Leasowe, The Wirral.
- 10.00 Asian Magazine. A film report on the Centre for Pakistan Studies in London. 10.30 Switch On to English.
- 10.55 France actuelle. Life in the Mountains of the Dauphine (11.20) Micro Film. Accomplishment of the best of Micro Live 11.45 With a Little Help from the Chip. How microcomputers help the disabled. (r) (Ceefax)
- 12.10 See How the Magazine programme for the hearing impaired 12.35 Flamingo includes an update on the after-effects of the Chernobyl disaster.
- 12.55 Weather.
- 1.00 This Week Next Week. David Dimbleby reviews the political scene after the Chernobyl disaster.
- 1.30 The Week Next Week. The guests include Malcolm Rifkind, Lord Ashdown and Roy Hattersley. 2.00 EastEnders. (r) (Ceefax)
- 3.00 Cartoon.
- 3.05 Two young brothers run away from an orphanage when they learn they are to be separated.
- 3.55 The Roman Holiday. A comedy starring Gregory Peck and, in an Oscar-winning performance, Audrey Hepburn. A Rome-based American journalist befriends a pretty girl he finds sprawled in a drunken stupor by the Trevi fountain. He takes her back to his flat to sleep off and the next morning discovers she is a princess on a state visit to the city.
- 5.50 Antiques Roadshow from Swindon. (Ceefax)
- 6.30 News with Jan Leeming. 6.40 The Campbells. Drama serial about a Scottish doctor and his family who emigrate to Canada in the 1850s.
- 7.15 Hancock's Half Hour. When Tony contracts a cold every body else suffers. (r) (Ceefax)
- 7.45 Miss Marple: The Moving Finger. Part one of a two-episode Agatha Christie mystery surrounding the suicide of a recipient of poison pen letters. Starring Joan Hickson. (r) (Ceefax)
- 8.35 The specialist services are: the history and development of firearms 1500 - 1900; the life and career of Laurence Olivier; the First World War and the history of the Yugoslavians 1900 - 1945.
- 9.05 News with Jan Leeming. Weather.
- 9.20 That's Life includes an investigation into a noxious trade in sick and dying puppies.
- 10.05 Heart of the Matter. A new series begins with a discussion on the question 'What Price Hostages?' With Terry Watts, the Rev Ben Weir, Sir Anita Parsons, Ambassador Michael Novak and Timothy Henton.
- 10.40 Geoffrey Smith's World of Poppies. (r)
- 11.05 Weather.
- 11.10 Open University. Ends at 12.05.

- TV-AM**
- 6.55 Good Morning Britain begins with A Thought for a Sunday - 7.00 Are You Awake Yet? 7.25 cartoon. 7.50 the WIT; 7.55 cartoon. 8.10 Jani Barnett's Pick of the Week. 8.27 news headlines.
- 8.30 Jonathan Dimbleby on Sunday.
- ITV/LONDON**
- 9.25 Wake Up London. The Vicious Boys take tennis lessons. 9.35 Woody and Friends. Two cartoons. 9.45 Roger Ramjet.
- 10.00 Morning Worship. A service from Clarendon Park Congregational Church, Leicester, celebrating the 155th Annual Assembly of the Congregational Church.
- 11.00 Link. Kevin Mulhern comments on the DHSS's new policy on mobility allowances. 11.30 Once a Thief. A Michael Berlin investigates what is being achieved by imprisoning reoffenders.
- 12.00 Weekend After. After Thursday's local and by-elections, how do the Tories plan to avoid defeat at the next General Election?
- 1.00 Police 5. Shaw Taylor with more clues to unsolved crime in the London area. 1.15 The Smurfs. A cartoon series. 1.30 Small Wonder. American domestic comedy series about a household with a robot. 1.45 The Philanthropist. A moral and religious issues raised this week by the media.
- 2.30 LWT News headlines followed by Film: Will Penny (1967) starring Charlton Heston. The story of a cowboy facing a moral crisis. Help comes in the shape of a frontier widow and her young son. With Joan Hackett and Donald Pleasence. Directed by Tom Gries.
- 4.30 The Campbells. Drama serial about a Scottish doctor and his family who emigrate to Canada in the 1850s.
- 5.00 Albion Market. 6.00 Now You See It. General knowledge game presented by Jack McLaughlin.
- 6.30 News with Alastair Stewart.
- 6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Scobie is in Bradford. 7.15 Catchphrase. Game show presented by Roy Walker.
- 7.45 Film: The Deep (1977) starring Robert Shaw, Jacqueline Bisset and Nick Nolte. Thriller about a scientist who discovers a sunken Second World War freighter and the keys to priceless treasures - and riches. They are helped in their quest by a reclusive lighthouse keeper. Directed by Peter Yates.
- 9.45 News.
- 10.00 The Understanding. By Angela Hunt. Constance Cummings, Isabel Dean, Rachel Campbell, Michael Aldridge and Samantha Bond star in this drama about a secret a woman has kept all her married life.
- 11.30 LWT News headlines followed by Manly. A tribute to Manny Shinwell. 12.15 Trapper John. Medical comedy drama series.
- 1.05 Night Thoughts.



South Pacific panorama: A scene from the World About Us film 'Pitcairn: The Bounty Inheritance' (BBC2, 7.45pm)

- BBC 2**
- 6.50 Open University. Unit 1.55.
- 1.55 Sunday Grandstand. Introduced by Desmond Lynam. At 2.00 Football: the FA Cup winners north and south of the border arrive home to rapturous welcomes - unless, of course, the games and in a draw: with 4.00 Motor Racing: live coverage of the Monaco Grand Prix; 4.00 and 4.30 Cricket: highlights of the opening of the John Player Special League match between Somerset and Middlesex, during the breakers' tea interval. 4.30 The Sheffield International Welsh Rally.
- 6.40 The Money Programme. Includes a profile of AEUW president, Bill Jordan; and reports on the British film industry and energy prices.
- 7.15 Nature introduced by Tony Soper with Ian Guest. A Dutch team watch as a tawny owl family regulate its clutch size; and a report on the consequences to wildlife of the proposed new container port in the Falmouth estuary; and what happens to the birds.
- 7.45 The World About Us. Pitcairn - The Bounty Inheritance. The first of a new series. Glynn Christian, better known as the 'Pitcairn Cook', is a descendant of Fletcher Christian of the Bounty. A life-time obsession with his ancestor's story led Mr Christian to organise an expedition under sail from Tahiti to Pitcairn Island where Fletcher Christian and his followers settled. (Ceefax)
- 8.35 To the Lighthouse. A repeat of the award-winning adaptation of Virginia Woolf's novel. Starring Rosemary Harris, Michael Gough and T.P. McKenna. Set in the summer of 1912, the story centres on the Ramsay family and their guests at their holiday home in Cornwall. Directed by Colin Gregg. (Ceefax)
- 10.30 Grand Prix. Highlights of this afternoon's Monaco Grand Prix.
- 11.05 Film: Girlfriends (1978) starring Melanie Lynskey, Anita Skinner and El Wailach. The story of two New York girls who take their friendship for granted until one of them is married. The single girl feels betrayed and the married one becomes to resent what she believes is the freedom of her friend. Directed by Claudia Weill. Ends at 12.35.

- CHANNEL 4**
- 1.10 Irish Angel - Patterns. The art of Danny Osborne, a painter and sculptor, who lives on the Beara Peninsula, West Cork.
- 1.35 The Making of Britain. Dr Mark Goldie describes the events that led to the rise of the political parties during the restoration.
- 2.00 The Pocket Money Programme. Financial advice for children, from children.
- 2.30 Film: Jet Pilot (1957) starring John Wayne and Janet Leigh. An American Air Force commander, in charge of an airbase in Alaska, falls for a defecting Russian pilot who lands at his base. Directed by Joseph Von Sternberg.
- 4.35 Barefoot Flatfoot. A Mr Magoo cartoon.
- 4.45 Durrell in Russia. Gerald and Durrell continue their exploration of the Russian wildlife with a visit to the Askaniya Nova reserve in the heart of the Ukraine. (Ceefax)
- 5.15 News summary and weather followed by The Business Programme. This week's edition includes a report on Swan Hunter, the recently privatized shipyard that has lost a big contract to its nationalized competitor, Harland and Wolff.
- 6.00 Second Glimpse. Filmic impressions of Britain's lighthouses.
- 6.15 The Channel 4 Inquiry. A report on the International Road Racing from Oxford. An eight kilometre course for the men; three for the women.
- 7.15 Killisnoo. A repeat of the programme illustrating the mountain's variety of landscapes, plants and animals.
- 8.15 Sinfonietta. The London Sinfonietta play Messiaen's Colours of the Angel.
- 9.00 The Channel 4 Inquiry. Presented by Peter Sissons. Experts examine star witnesses to examine whether our education and training system is fit to meet the needs of industry.
- 10.30 Film: Albert, RN (1953) starring Anthony Steel. Second World War thriller about a ruse to cover the disappearance of escaping Allied prisoners of war. Directed by Lewis Gilbert.
- 12.10 The Twilight Zone: A Short Drink From a Certain Fountain. A supernatural tale of an older man who seeks the fountain of youth in order to satisfy his forty-year-old wife. Starring Patrick O'Neal and Ruta Lee. Ends at 12.35.

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Radio 4

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- 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. Life and politics abroad, reported by BBC foreign correspondents.
- 12.00 News; Money Box. Panel game about food and drink. 12.55 Weather 1.00 News 1.10 Any Questions? With Peter Bottomley, MP. Tony Christopher, Richard Holme, Jane Denton. 1.55 Questions. 2.00 News; The Afternoon Play. 'Good Morning Beauty' by John Wain. With Julie Conington and Bill Nighty (r) (a) 3.30 News; Travel; International Assignment. BBC correspondents report. 4.00 The Saturday Feature: Letter to the World. A literary celebration of the life and poetry of Emily Dickinson. With Bonnie Hurren and Don Fellows. The Forsythe Saga II. Based on Bill Tidy's cartoon strip.
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- 10.15 Evening Service (a) 10.30 Soundings (new series) Satan and all his works. With Ted Haggart. 11.00 Science Now (Peter Evans)
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Radio 3

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Radio 4

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Merseyside clubs meet in FA Cup Final for first time in competition's 114-year history

LIVERPOOL have had to live down the tragedy of last season's European Cup final in Brussels while overcoming the loss of Souless. Their list of honours in the domestic and European game is endless: 15 times league champions, twice FA Cup winners, four times Milk Cup winners, four times European Cup winners, and twice UEFA Cup winners to name but a few. Victory would give them the elusive League and FA Cup double, hitherto achieved only by Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal.

Clive White on the probable Wembley teams

EVERTON are seriously challenging for supremacy on Merseyside — and therefore national supremacy — after 14 years in the shadow of their neighbours and natural enemies. Seven times first division champions, four times FA Cup winners and Cup Winners' Cup holders. Defeat in last May's final cost them a unique treble. They beat Liverpool in the Charity Shield in August but victory in their third consecutive FA Cup final is essential if they are to save face after relinquishing their League title to Liverpool.



BRUCE GROBELAAR
Goalkeeper

Hero or villain? Everton's successor to Clemence. Bore in Dublin and played for Zimbabwe, Vancouver and Crewe. Arobatic, courageous and risky.



STEVE NICOL
Right back

Originally under study to Neill, but equally impressive in midfield. Joined from Ayr for £300,000 and will represent Scotland in Mexico. Powerful forager.



GARY GILLESPIE
Centre back

Recently preferred to Lawman at centre back. One need say no more. A patient under study since arriving from Coventry three years ago. Composed and elegant.



ALAN HANSEN
Centre back

Handsome Hansen. Fixture in the Liverpool back. If not always Scotland's after leaving Partick nine years ago. Captain. Chasing his first FA Cup winners' medal.



JIM BEGLIN
Left back

Played for Republic of Ireland before Liverpool's first team. Succeeded Kennedy but yet to win over the Kop. Accurate, sometimes overambitious, left foot.



MARK LAWRENSON
Midfield

Britain's best defender but no less a player in midfield. Signed from Brighton for record £400,000 in 1981. Tackles with precision rather than power. Quick.



CRAIG JOHNSTON
Midfield

An unpredictable player who has found his niche after five seasons. Born in Johannesburg and signed from Middlesbrough for £500,000. Speedy, tricky player.



JAN MOLBY
Midfield

The great Dane who like a Hans Christian Andersen fairytale has developed into a player of beauty under Dalglish. Signed from Ajax. Delicate distribution.



RONNIE WHELAN
Midfield

Explosive Wembley debut four years ago against Tottenham. Signed from Home Farm, Dublin in 1979 and again into double figures in goals. Slippery with a good shot.



IAN RUSH
Forward

The most prolific goalscorer of modern times. Bought from Chester for £50,000 five seasons ago. Welsh team-mate of his marker today, Ratcliffe.



KENNY DALGLISH
Forward

Man of the moment. Instrumental in their championship success on the field in his first season as manager. Scotland's most capped player. Shrewd, lethal.



KEVIN MACDONALD
Midfield

Inconsistent after a successful start to his career. A broken arm ended a recent good spell. One-paced but capable of inspiring by his effort.

Routes to the final

Liverpool: Third round: Norwich (h) 5-0. Fourth round: Chelsea (a) 2-1. Fifth round: York (a) 1-1 (replay, h) 3-1 (after extra time). Sixth round: Watford (h) 0-0 (replay, a) 2-1 (after extra time). Semi-final (at White Hart Lane): Southampton, 2-0 (after extra time).

Everton: Third round: Exeter (h) 1-0. Fourth round: Blackburn (h) 3-1. Fifth round: Tottenham (a) 2-1. Sixth round: Luton (a) 2-2 (replay, h) 1-0. Semi-final (at Villa Park): Sheffield Wednesday, 2-1 (after extra time).



Alan Robinson (above), the referee for today's match, is a 49-year-old civil servant from Waterlooville, near Portsmouth. He retires after today's game.

A lifelong Portsmouth supporter, he has been the man in the middle for 30 years, since he was 19. "I played in local football but I was a frustrated player," he said. "I was never any good. So I turned to refereeing." He refereed the Milk Cup final between Everton and Liverpool, at Wembley in 1984, and also the replay at Maine Road. "It was such a fine, sporting event," he says. "I just hope it will be the same again." He admits he will be nervous before the match. "I get pre-match nerves before every game, let alone a cup final," he admitted. "But that's not a bad thing. If you get complacent you can make a real hash of things. I like to keep the game flowing and I try to keep a low profile. The crowd come to see the players, not the referee."



BOBBY MEADS
Goalkeeper

Left Rotherham as an England under-21 reserve. Exceeded all expectations in replacing the injured Southall. As tall as a basketball player.



GARY STEVENS
Right back

Graduated to the Everton senior team after one game at under-21 level. Winner of three major championship medals when at Ipswich. Powerful tackler.



PAT VAN DEN HAUWE
Left back

Belgian-born Welsh international equally at home as centre back. Unbeatable value at £100,000. Affectionately known as "Psycho-Pat". Fierce and strong.



KEVIN RATCLIFFE
Centre back

Transferred from Wales and Everton captain. Picked to overturn Salford's club record of 30 caps at the age of 23. Quiet and composed. Renowned for speed, instinctive.



DEREK MOUNTFIELD
Centre back

An outsider for Mexico before a knee operation and subsequent complications. Discovered in a bargain basement at Tottenham. A perfect complement to Ratcliffe.



TREVOR STEVEN
Midfield

Joined from Burnley for £325,000 in 1983. Goalscoring midfielder-cum-winger in a bargain basement at Tottenham. A perfect complement to Ratcliffe.



PETER REID
Midfield

Has overcome multiple injuries at 29 to assume a rightful place among England's creative best. Kendall's most inspired purchase at £60,000 from Bolton.



PAUL BRACEWELL
Midfield

Reid's running mate, who may miss in Mexico. Another president purchase at £250,000 from Sunderland. Made debut at Wembley.



KEVIN SHEEDY
Midfield

The most accurate ball striker in either team. Born in British Wells but represents Republic of Ireland. Free-kick specialist. A regrettable absentee this season.



GRAEME SHARP
Forward

Most improved player in the team. Signed from Dumbarton for £150,000 in 1980 and a member of Scotland's World Cup squad. Ideal target man with fine control.



GARY LINEKER
Forward

Player of the year in anyone's poll. Cost £800,000 from Leicester. Signed from Stoke for £700,000 in 1982. Low slice first through injury. A busy bee.



ADRIAN HEATH
Forward

Everton's answer to Liverpool's original "superstar". Fairground. Signed from Stoke for £700,000 in 1982. Low slice first through injury. A busy bee.

Leandro refuses to go to Mexico with Brazil

Rio De Janeiro (Reuters) — The Brazilian right back, Leandro, refused to accompany his squad when it flew to Mexico for the World Cup finals. The plane was delayed more than an hour to give Leandro time to reconsider but it left without him after his team colleagues, Zico and Junior, had gone to his flat to try to persuade him to change his mind.

"Leandro has been very depressed lately. Since he did not wish to discuss his decision, I decided not to push him further," the Flamengo

president, George Helal, said. Leandro, a veteran of Brazil's 1982 World Cup team in Spain, had also refused to play against Paraguay in the Americas Cup tournament in 1983. O Lisbo (AP) — The top Portuguese defender, Antonio Valoso was excluded from his country's World Cup squad hours before the team was due to leave for Mexico. Tests revealed that the Benfica player was suffering from a neurological problem that made him unfit to play. He will be replaced by Fernando Bandeirinha.

Aberdeen should rise to the occasion

By Hugh Taylor

Every neutral football follower who was enthralled by the exploits of Heart of Midlothian in the league is ardently hoping they will find consolation for their ill-fated romance by winning the Scottish Cup final at Hampden Park today. The bookmakers, however, make their opponents, Aberdeen, favourites to take the trophy. Although they failed to retain their league championship because of inconsistency, Aberdeen still appear the team more likely to show their best form on the big occasion. It may be significant that victory for Aberdeen today would make them the first side, other than Rangers and Celtic, to win both domestic cups in the same season, after their 3-0 Skol Cup victory against Hibernian.

Hearts, however, have shown they are unlikely to freeze because their success has come from solid teamwork and a simple pattern of play. The most difficult task for Alex MacDonald, their manager, will be to restore morale after their unexpected stumble at the last league hurdle when they lost to Dundee, allowing Celtic to take the championship.

Aberdeen's resolute defensive partnership of McLeish and Miller will be hard pressed to contain the venomous attacks led by the Hearts trio of Clark, Robertson and Colquhoun, but on the other hand, Aberdeen are more experienced and powerful than Hearts, even without the sprightly Black, who is joining the French club, Metz, and is dropped from the cup final team.

Whether Aberdeen are as menacing as Hearts in attack may be questioned but Joe Miller is one of the country's most promising attackers. Weir an entrancing winger and McDougall and Hewitt noted scorers.

Aberdeen, then, appear the more likely winners, even more so because the country's history shows that misfortune rather than triumph is usually the fate of fleeting flowers of Scotland.

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

It will be close, perhaps desperately so. It will be cramped, perhaps disappointingly so. It will be a cup final, but as Merseyside's finest hour and a half looms one name suggests that Liverpool are about to achieve the double by winning the FA Cup Final at Wembley. That name is Kenny Dalglish.

Entitled to call himself a Member of the British Empire and a Freeman of Glasgow, he has won a pageful of honours in many of the shuddering tackles nor will his presence always necessarily be obvious. But no one's vision will be wider, no one's imagination will be brighter and no one's contribution is likely to be as influential. No one on either side, in other words, is as talented.

Bob Paisley his assistant, describes him as "the man with magic in his boots" and Everton have painful memories of how spellbinding he can be. Last September he picked an unexpected formation for the derby at Goodison Park and, in a stunning game that would have graced any arena in the world, he led them to a 3-2 triumph.

Liverpool's almost flawless performance, opened by

England's World Cup squad, ensconced in Colorado Springs in their build-up to Mexico, will be unable to watch live coverage of the FA Cup final. Although the Wembley showpiece between Everton and Liverpool is being beamed live to around 50 countries, the United States is not among them.

swiftest player to be seen by an estimated audience of 200 million today, nor the most energetic.

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Dalglish himself with a goal after a mere 20 seconds, was to prove decisive not only on the day but, since they eventually finished two points in front of their neighbours in the final table, in the season itself. Can they close with a display of similar quality to enrich the occasion at Wembley?

As eight months ago, Dalglish is keeping his line up locked inside his tactical brain. Then he chose a sweeper, Molby, to tidy up around Hansen and Lawrenson and treated the fixture as a European tie. With Rush and Johnston leading the breaks, he stayed behind them and prompted Liverpool to a 3-0 lead by the interval.

The framework had altered slightly by the time Liverpool became champions by defeating Chelsea last Saturday, appropriately through Dalglish's lone goal. Molby has since strolled elegantly into midfield where MacDonald has taken over from McMahon and Lawrenson has shifted across to allow Gillespie to share the defensive marking duties with Hansen.

Dalglish is expected to retain his balanced side that is captained by Hansen, who has astonishingly been left out of Scotland's World Cup squad. With Nicol and Beglin standing steady and Steven and Sheedy and Lawrenson respectively, Liverpool would thus have numerical advan-

Zurich (AP) — The executive committee of UEFA said yesterday that English clubs have made "important efforts" to improve the conduct of their fans following the Heysel stadium tragedy a year ago.

However, in a brief statement, the committee said it was still too early to consider readmitting them to European cup matches.

"If the improvement continues the committee reserves the right to reconsider its position in 1987," the statement said.

age in midfield, the crucial area. Remarkably, Liverpool have yet to lose a match in which Rush has scored and his personal duel with his Welsh international colleague, Ratcliffe, will be one of the more significant features. Mountfield, missing through injury in September and troubled by a swollen knee this week, is in danger of being excluded again.

Howard Kendall, given no choice but to delay the publication of his team sheet until Mountfield's fitness has been assessed this morning, has been disturbed all season by absenteeism. Apart from Southall, Everton trust that they will otherwise be at full strength but their recent form in the Canon League has not been convincingly fluent.

Liverpool, finishing as strongly and as rhythmically as ever, maintained a run of ten victories and a draw and, more poignantly, they already have a trophy to mark Dalglish's first season in charge. As he himself says, "we can afford to relax and the pressure must be on them to win something."

Lineker, with 39 goals to his credit, has blossomed in his partnership with Sharp. Everton's most improved individual, but neither of them should expect to remain uncompensated for more than a few of the forthcoming 5,400 seconds. Liverpool's most niggling fear may centre not so much on the opposition but on their own goalkeeper.

Grobelaar, an entertaining showman who regards the whole penalty area as his stage, has mistimed his visits to its furthest extremities with embarrassing consequences. Mimms, Southall's abled deputy, will face a wider variety of potential danger men, one of whom is Molby, armed with one of the fiercest shots in the game. If Liverpool should win it for the sake of Dalglish, somebody should win it for the sake of England and Scotland. A replay would postpone the preparation of seven of their World Cup representatives.

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Jaguar out in front

Jaguar moved a step nearer to recapturing old glories in the Le Mans 24-hour race of 29 years ago by securing the first two places around this eight-mile French road circuit in practice yesterday. A Silk Cut Team Jaguar XJ-6, driven by the Hampshire Grand Prix driver, Derek Warwick, lapped at 151mph, well inside the official lap-record for the race which will be staged at the end of the month.

Their second car, driven by Jean Louis Schlesser, of France, was second fastest. They beat a Porsche 962C driven by Jochen Mass, of West Germany, into third.

Stand plan

Wigan Rugby League club are to continue their expansion plans with a £500,000 stand on the popular side of the Central Park ground. The new, which will take about three years to complete, will include new dressing rooms and social club facilities.

Yanez wins

Sierra Nevada, (Reuters) — Felipe Yanez, of Spain, won the 191km 17th stage of the Tour of Spain cycle race, but Robert Millar, of Scotland, and Alvaro Pino, of Spain, are favourites to win the event after a dramatic duel on the 30km climb to the snow-capped peaks of Sierra Nevada. Millar opened a one-second gap over the Spaniard, but Pino overtook him to keep his 33sec overall lead and the yellow jersey.

Ultra success

Melbourne (Reuters) — Dusan Mravjic, of Yugoslavia, won the 1,000-km (625-mile) Sydney to Melbourne Ultra Marathon on Thursday night, completing the world's longest road race in just over six and a half days. Mravjic, aged 33, an engineer from Kranj, was more than 50km (30 miles) ahead of his nearest rival, Patrick Mackie, of Britain, who hobbled towards the finish on a walking stick. Geoff Kirkman, of Australia, was seriously injured in a road accident when he was leading.

Veteran Sky Fly takes pair to new heights

By Jeany MacArthur

Gillian Greenwood gained her most significant victory since winning the 1984 junior European title when she won the Toshiba national ladies' championship at the Royal Windsor horse show yesterday.

Riding the 19-year-old mare, Sky Fly, who is the same age as herself, Miss Greenwood made a stylish round against the clock in the six-horse jump-off that was a mere two seconds faster than that of last year's winner, Sue Pountney, on the magnificent Ned Kelly VI. Michelle Lewis was third on Sander.

Sky Fly's continued enthusiasm for showjumping is something of a wonder to the Greenwood family. The Irish mare was bred to race but "wasted too much time in the air" during her hurdling days. She was bought by the Greenwoods nine years ago and

Ultra success

successfully jumped by Miss Greenwood's father, John. Five years ago she broke down and was due to be retired and put in foal. Miss Greenwood however had other ideas. She started riding the mare and formed an instant partnership, winning the junior gold medal in their first year together.

Miss Greenwood, who is looking for a sponsor, is helped by international rider Geoff Glazard, but her regular trainer is her father, John. RESULTS: Toshiba National Ladies' Championship: 1 Sky Fly (G. Greenwood) no faults in 30.55; 2 Ned Kelly VI (S. Pountney) 0 in 32.57; 3 Sander (M. Lewis) 2 in 34.55. Toshiba Polo Pony Championship: Champions Sir W. G. Weston's Night Ride; Reserve Lord Beresford's Amberjack; Toshiba Small Hatz 1: Mrs M. A. Baker's Foxton Flight; 2 M. P. Jolly and Miss E. Sarge's Saviour Fox; 3 Miss S. Wyman's Keston Refund; 4 K. K. Loxford's Grandstand; 5 Mrs A. Wareham's Morning Pride; 6 Mr & Mrs R. Gardner's Bellinger.

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